



For the Proprietor of
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,
and on behalf of
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Today's Weather: Moderate or fresh North to Northeast
winds overcast, with scattered drizzle this evening cooler.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure, 1017.5 mbs, 20.04
In. Temperature, 65.5 deg. F. Dew point, 57 deg. F. Relative
humidity, 72. Wind direction, North. Wind force, 3 knots.
Low water 2 ft. at 3.31 p.m. High water: 7 ft. 0 in. at
10.05 p.m.

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VOL. IV NO. 61

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1949.

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Woman Kills Aunt, Then Forges Her Signature

Leeds, Yorkshire, Mar. 14.—The discovery of the skeleton of a 75-year-old woman, which had lain in a mine shaft for nearly eight years, led to a five-year penal servitude sentence on a mother of two children here today.
The mother, Mrs. Winifred Mary Hallaghan, pleaded guilty to unintentionally killing her great aunt and forging a title to part of the dead woman's property.
The prosecution said Mrs. Hallaghan struck her aunt after she had made a remark about her husband. When she found the aunt was dead, she wheeled the body in a baby carriage to a disused pit shaft 100 yards from the house, and dumped it under cover of darkness.
Coroners' jury found the skeleton last December.
Pronouncing sentence today, the judge said that the worst of Mrs. Hallaghan's offences were those of forgery two years after the manslaughter of her aunt. For this, she was sentenced to five years, with a concurrent sentence of three years for manslaughter.
The judge turned down a plea that Mrs. Hallaghan had already suffered during seven and a half years.—Reuter.

European Fined \$300 For Driving While Under Influence Of Liquor

A. T. B. Bardens, 50, wireless engineer, of Cable and Wireless, was fined \$300 by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning for driving an Austin utility Government car whilst under the influence of liquor. The Magistrate also ordered that his driving licence be suspended for three months.

Defendant, who pleaded guilty, said that he did not know what had happened.
Inspector T. G. Mackay said at 8.20 p.m., on Monday, defendant was driving a utility (Government vehicle) No. 5332 up the Magazine Gap Road hill. When he arrived at the junction of May Road, he made a left hand turn and in doing so, the car collided with a wall on the right hand side of the road then went over to the left hand side, up a foot path and down the slope, for a distance of about 20 feet.
Defendant was being followed by a taxi with a European passenger who took defendant to his car and drove him home.
When questioned by Police at home at 10.30 that night defendant said that he had no idea what had happened.
Defendant was taken to Queen Mary Hospital and no report regarding his case had been received yet.
The damage sustained by defendant's car was not extensive, according to the prosecution.

CHINA SITUATION LATEST All-Party Cabinet A Difficult Proposition

Shanghai, Mar. 15.—The Premier, General Ho Ying-chin, was reported this morning to have made little headway during the past two days in his efforts to form an all-party "streamlined peace" Cabinet.
Mr. Carson Chang, the Social Democratic Party leader, Dr. W. W. Yen and Mr. Kiang Yung, members of the Shanghai non-partisan peace delegation, are said to have definitely declined to join the new Cabinet.
Dr. Yen turned down the offer on grounds of age and health, while Mr. Kiang Yung was quoted as saying that he would not accept any Government post because he

The Council of Nationalities approved the release of two Vice-Presidents of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Nikolai Natanovich representing Byelo-Russia, and Georgi Sturua of Georgia.

Vassily Kozlov was appointed to succeed Natanovich and Vassily Gogua to succeed Sturua. Natanovich was relieved of his duties on the grounds that he no longer works in Byelo-Russia.

Peter Popkov, secretary of the Leningrad Committee of the Communist Party, was relieved of membership in the presidium of the Supreme Soviet on the grounds that he no longer works in Leningrad. He was succeeded by Vassily Andrianov. Anatoli Golitsin's appointment to succeed Ivan Golikov as President of the Supreme Court was similarly approved.

The Council of Nationalities also ratified the appointments of Andrei Vyshinsky to succeed Mr. V. M. Molotov as Foreign Minister and M. I. Menshikov to succeed A. Mikoyan as Foreign Trade Minister.

Unlike Voznesensky, however, both Molotov and Mikoyan

relieved from their posts as Vice-Premiers when they relinquished their other portfolios on March 4.—United Press.

LONDON SPECULATION

London, Mar. 14.—The withdrawal of M. Nikola A. Voznesensky from the Presidency of the Soviet State Planning Commission may mean that the Soviet leaders are reconsidering the ideological basis of the Russian foreign policy, London diplomatic observers considered today.

Whether this is the correct interpretation of today's Moscow announcement is a moot point. Voznesensky has been relieved of his "State duties," depends on whether he has retained his membership of the Politburo.

London observers noted that, unlike M. Vassily Molotov and Anastas Mikoyan, who are "relieved" of their posts as Foreign Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade earlier this month, M. Voznesensky has also been relieved of his post as Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers. He may, however, still retain his position as a member of the Politburo.

If he does, then today's announcement may merely mean that he has been seconded for special duties as the planner for a new Council for Mutual Economic Aid for Eastern Europe, set up last January. In that case, M. Voznesensky's task would be to:

- 1.—Draw up an overall East European plan for the industrialization of the countries lying in the Soviet sphere, particularly for the development of heavy industries.
- 2.—Organise joint East European counter measures against any possible Western attempt to cut off trade with Eastern Europe.

ANOTHER EXPLANATION

There is an alternative explanation of M. Voznesensky's withdrawal from the Soviet State Planning Commission, which would imply that doubts have arisen in the minds of the Soviet leaders over the ideological basis of their postwar relations with the West.
This is that the withdrawal may be linked with the controversy, which has been raging in Moscow for the past year, over Eugene Varga, once Russia's leading economist, who fell into disfavour early in 1948 mainly because he refused to foretell an impending economic disaster in the West.
Varga has been repeatedly accused of declaring that the Western countries might achieve a new economic salvation through a reform, not through revolution. He did not believe that an economic crisis would come in the West before 1955 at the earliest.

M. Voznesensky, as President of the Planning Commission, has been one of Varga's chief opponents and has pronounced the orthodox Soviet theory of the existence of a permanent and steadily worsening crisis in the capitalist states, and of their im-

minent collapse through "internal contradictions." The withdrawal of M. Voznesensky may be an indication that the Soviet leaders have decided that the time has come to reconsider the ideological basis of Soviet foreign policy.—Reuter.

BUDGET APPROVED

Moscow, Mar. 14.—The Soviet of the Union, one of the two Chambers of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, today adopted with slight modifications the budget proposals presented by the Finance Minister Mr. A. G. Zverev.

The revised budget provides for a total income of 446,043 million rubles and an expenditure of 415,355 million rubles. The budget surplus for 1948 of 2,737 million rubles was not included in this figure.
Mr. Zverev's original budget proposals provided for 445,288 million rubles, with 415,350 million rubles as expenditure. The defence estimates remained unchanged. The expenditure on the forces—19 per cent of the total 1949 budget—will be 79,000 million rubles, an increase of 12,000 million rubles on last year's figures.

NEED FOR ECONOMY

The Finance Minister stressed the need for economy in Soviet Russia during his final budget speech today. He said that requests for money to finance new capital constructions—such as a request for a new railroad, might be granted, but that they were "serious matters" which would have to be studied by the Council of Ministers.
An "extremely large sum" had already been granted for capital construction in 1949, Mr. Zverev added. This programme must go through.

Speaking on request for the construction and improvement of roads and settlements in various Soviet republics, the Finance Minister said money for these must be found from local budgets.
The 1949 budget had been approved by both Chambers of the Supreme Soviet, Mr. Zverev said. The debate had shown that it was fully in accord with the tasks facing the Soviet State in the coming year.—Reuter.

SWALLOWED 19 SAFETY PINS

Liverpool, Mar. 14.—Wilbert Titus Blockeshurst, a 40-year-old woolen mill labourer, killed himself by swallowing nineteen open safety pins, the coroner's court was told here today.
The court found that Blockeshurst had taken his life while the balance of his mind was disturbed.—Reuter.

ADMIRAL BRIND VISITS AMOY

Amoy, Mar. 15.—Vice-Admiral Sir E. J. Patrick Brind, new Far East Commander of the British Fleet, arrived on board HMS Alert yesterday. After a two day visit he will proceed to Swatow.—Associated Press.

Einstein's Birthday



Professor Einstein, who yesterday celebrated his 70th birthday.

End Of Clothes Rationing

COMMONS CHEER ANNOUNCEMENT

London, Mar. 14.—The end of clothes rationing in Britain was announced in the House of Commons today. From tomorrow, people will be able to buy any clothing or textiles without coupons, which they have had to use for the last eight years.

The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson, announced this was greeted with Government cries of "Bravo" and from the Opposition—"What a colossal relief!" a reference to the forthcoming Parliamentary bye-election at Sowerby, Yorkshire.

Mr. Wilson, making the announcement in the House of Commons today, called it "Operation Godiva." He told a press conference later that he would make further contributions to the "general bonfire of controls" within the next few days.

TOP SECRET

The official ending of Britain's sartorial austerity followed limited concessions granted earlier by the Board of Trade. Mr. Wilson told his press conference that general clothes rationing had been planned on a top secret basis for some time "under the general title of Operation Godiva."

(Lady Godiva, according to legend, rode naked through the streets of Coventry in the 11th century.)

Mr. Wilson said he made his decision after he had satisfied, from consultations with his Clothing Industry Advisory Committee, that supply and demand were reasonably well balanced.

Prices and the prior demands of the nation's export drive will still limit Britons in replenishing their threadbare wardrobes.

Mr. Wilson said he was satisfied that, taking clothing as a whole, demand and supply were in reasonable balance. Home supplies would not be increased at the expense of exports. The necessary measures to ensure the full export targets would remain.—Reuter.

King Abdullah To Visit London

London, Mar. 14.—King Abdullah of Transjordan is expected to visit London within the next four weeks, according to the Damascus newspaper, Annua. Quoting "reliable sources," the newspaper said the King's visit would be concerned with a proclamation for the annexation of Transjordan of those parts of Palestine now occupied by Transjordan Legion forces.—Reuter.

Britain Sends A Warning Note To Israeli

TROOPS WILL BE FIRED ON IF THEY CROSS BORDER

London, Mar. 14.—Britain sent a note to Israel last week warning that the British troops stationed in the Transjordan port of Akaba had instructions to fire on any forces crossing the Israeli-Transjordan border, it was learned from a usually reliable diplomatic source today.

The note, handed to Mr. Joseph Linton, acting head of the Israeli Political Mission in London, was believed also to have asked the reason for the Israeli troop movements last week, when the triangular strip of Southern Palestine between the Egyptian and Transjordan frontiers—including the eight-mile coastline adjacent to the port at the head of the Gulf of Akaba—was occupied.

An Israeli reply to the note, understood to have been delivered in Tel-Aviv, was believed to have assured Britain that the intentions of the Israeli troops were peaceful.

The Israeli Government, it was understood, stated that nothing in any United Nations' provisions restricted the free movement of Israeli troops in the Western Negev—a district allotted to Israel under the General Assembly partition resolution of November, 1947, and claimed by Israel as its own territory.

According to unconfirmed reports in Amman, the Transjordan capital, today, 20 motor boats and launches have landed an Israeli detachment at En-Gedi, on the centre of the western shore of the Dead Sea.

ENTRENCHED

It was stated that the Israelis are said to have entrenched themselves in a vacant outpost formerly occupied by the Palestine police. The detachment came from the garrison, estimated at 2,000 strong, of the Israeli police works on the southern shore of the Dead Sea.

United Nations observers who are to investigate the situation at Akaba, were held up today when one of their planes made a crash landing at Amman airfield. Nobody was injured.

A second plane was unable to take off because of bad weather. Mud has cut off road communications between the Transjordan capital and Akaba, the only link being the railway.

The forces which have reinforced the British troops at Akaba consist of Marine Commandos and a squadron of tanks, it was reported in Amman.

(Continued on Page 5)

Football Pools Offence

Kowloon Resident Fined \$1,000

Appearing on remand at Kowloon Court before Mr. Blair-Kerr this morning, Robert Wright, aged 45, of 61 Kimberley Road, ground floor, pleaded guilty to the charge of keeping a common gaming house at his address and was fined \$1,000. He was on \$500 bail.

Mr. C. Mottram, ADCI, expressed the hope that this prosecution would put a stop to this form of gambling in future. He said that it was obvious that it had been going on for some time, as the police found football pool coupons dating back several months when they searched the premises on a warrant on Saturday evening.

He said the police also found other coupons referring to games due to be played that week which had been completed and sent in by clients, chiefly under noms de plume.

The Magistrate ordered the sum of \$100 found among the coupons and football literature to be confiscated and applied to the Poor Box.
A second charge of possession of lottery tickets was withdrawn.

EDITORIAL

Where Are Those Small Coins?

A FEW weeks ago 75 million ten-cent coins arrived in Hongkong as a first consignment to replace the torn, dirty, disease-ridden notes which, for more than three years have been passed from hand to hand. Last week a further 45 million coins of the same denomination were reported to have reached the Colony, making in all 120 million pieces of the subsidiary coinage for which the people here have waited so patiently and so long. But today, can the bus traveller, the ferry commuter, the tram passenger, or the individual who pays for a drink in a hotel receive a single 10-cent coin in change? He cannot! And, so far as the average Hongkongite is concerned, he is still saddled with the old, dirty, sticky and generally nauseating piece of paper which passes for small currency. When the first consignment of the nickel-brass coins arrived, it was stated that there would be a sufficiency to satisfy immediately the demands for the new currency: furthermore, that no more new notes would be printed, but those in circulation would be gradually withdrawn. Our observations lead to the conclusion either that the coins have not been sufficiently put into circulation, or that they have been bought up and are being used for purposes other than small change. The current shortage may be due to a little of both. For example, it is a fact that none of the public utility concerns which cater for the travelling requirements of the Colony, is giving nickel-brass 10-cent pieces as change—apart from the odd

coin in every 80 cents. And in view of the enormous daily intake of small denominational notes this is strange, to say the least. Is it that no endeavour is being made by them to replace 10-cent notes with coins? Or is it that the coins have vanished? One report has it that the Colony's new nickel-brass coins are being sent to Canton where they are being "treated" and then sold as attractive trinkets—showing a nice profit, thank you very much! Certainly there appears to be good grounds for believing that the new coins are finding their way in great numbers into the interior—presumably not because of any intrinsic value (an assurance was given from the beginning that they did not contain any such merit) but because Hongkong currency, remaining firm in the hinterland, the Chinese (like the Hongkongite) prefers a solid monetary token to a piece of paper. There must be a reason for the astonishing absence of subsidiary coinage in Hongkong. There is supposed to be anything up to \$12,000,000 in circulation, yet in the ordinary transaction of changing a dollar bill through normal commercial channels, it is unlikely that one will receive a single 10-cent coin. At the present rate of progress it will take not months, but years, to recall the existing notes, and in the meantime they are becoming grubbier and more contagious every day. The public has long been promised subsidiary coinage for paper money, and the public would like to know when it is to be available in sufficient quantity to make the small notes unnecessary.

A New Shipment



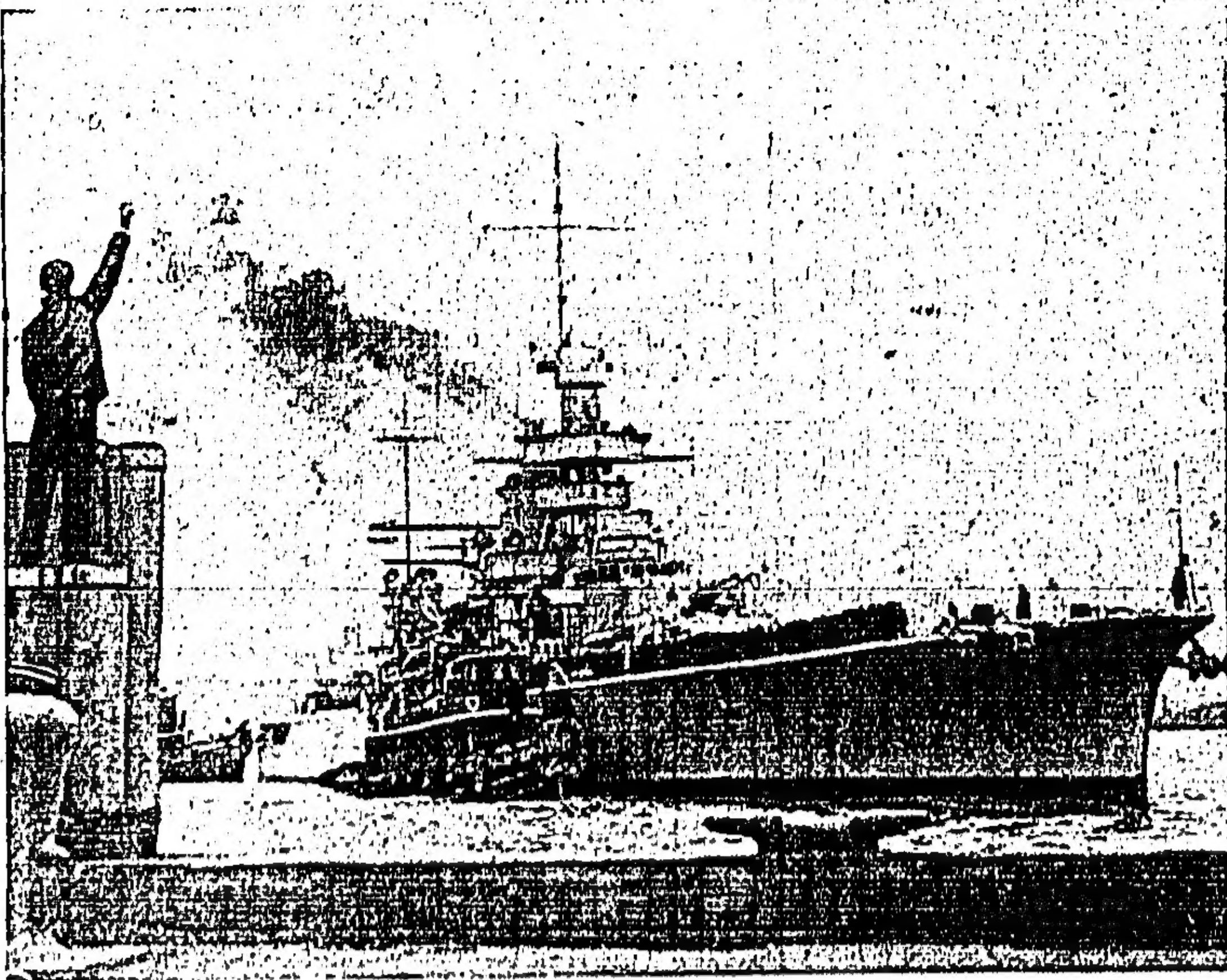
ROOM AIR-CONDITIONERS

IS HERE
3/4 H.P. AND 1 1/2 H.P.
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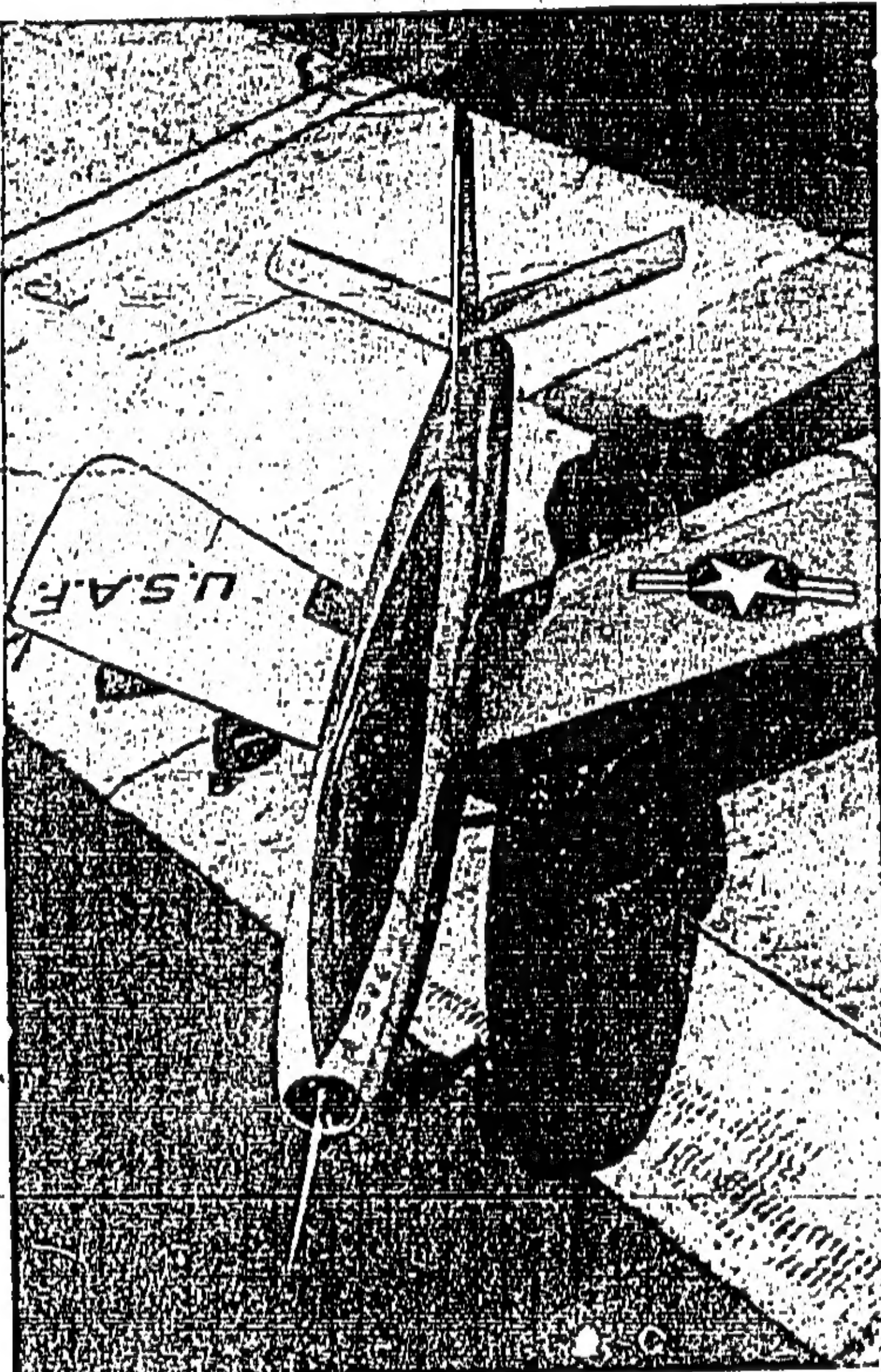
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WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



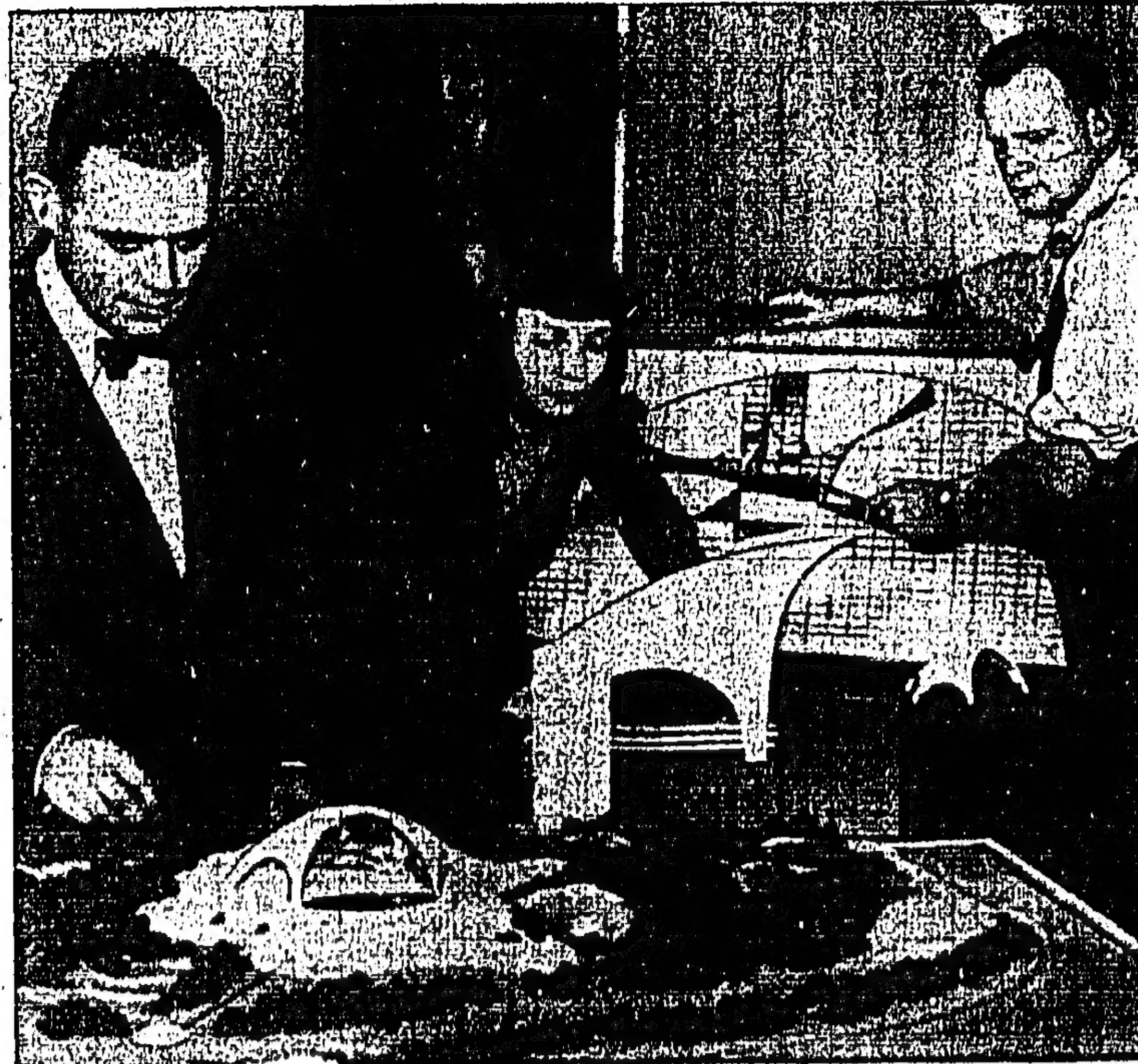
REPAYING A VISIT—Arriving in New York harbour, this heavy Argentine cruiser, the Almirante Brown, receives greetings as it prepares to tie up. Repaying a visit to Buenos Aires by several units of the U.S. fleet, the ship's commander, Capt. Carlos H. Garzon, will make official calls.



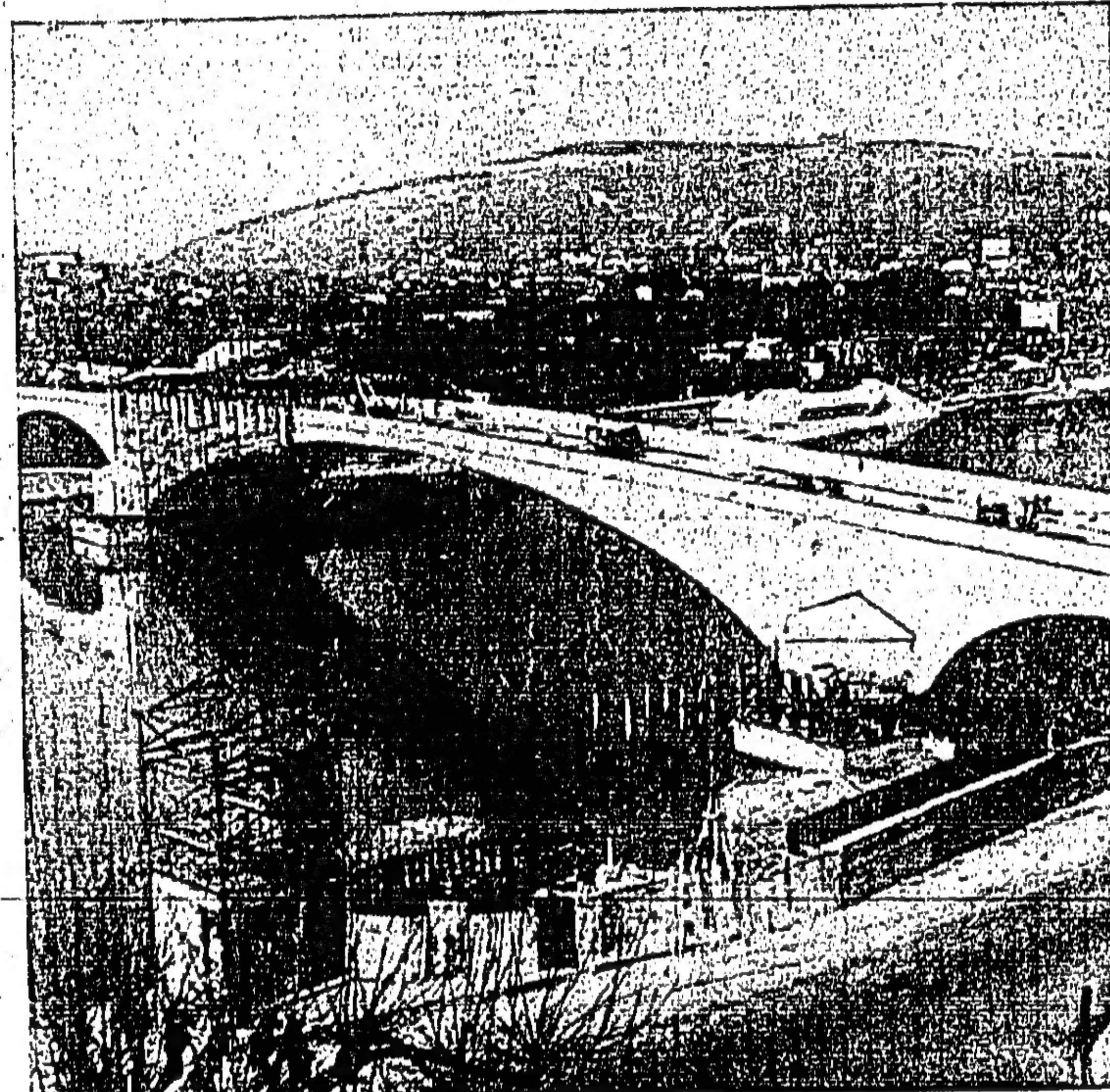
JET POWERED—The new United States Air Force high altitude interceptor fighter. Powered by a turbo-jet engine, its rocket motors accelerate take-off, climbing and operating in high altitudes. The speed and armament are still secret.



MEET MISS JONES—Here she is, O'Hara Jones, winner of the "Miss Brevity" contest in Miami Beach, Florida. She's displaying what's left of the bathing suit these days. There's a little cloth—and a lot of O'Hara.



IN THEORY—Students of architecture, painting and sculpture at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, collaborate to give a new look to the old problem of designing buildings. Shown above is a theoretical model for UNESCO.



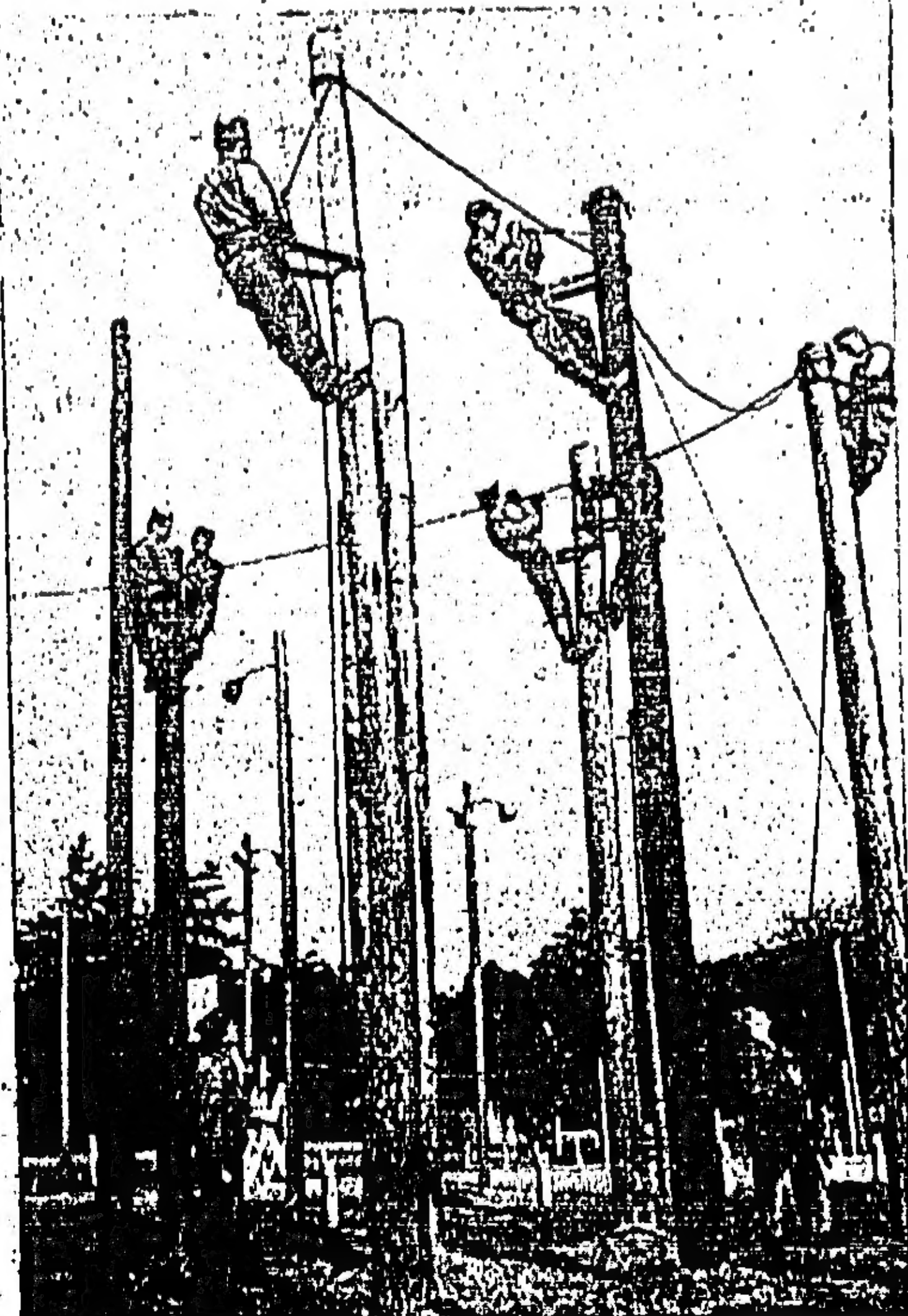
BRIDGE WORK—This new bridge, nearing completion at Vienne, France, will be opened on June 21 by the French President, Vincent Auriol. The bridge is about 700 feet long in all, and the largest arch alone is 350 feet in length.



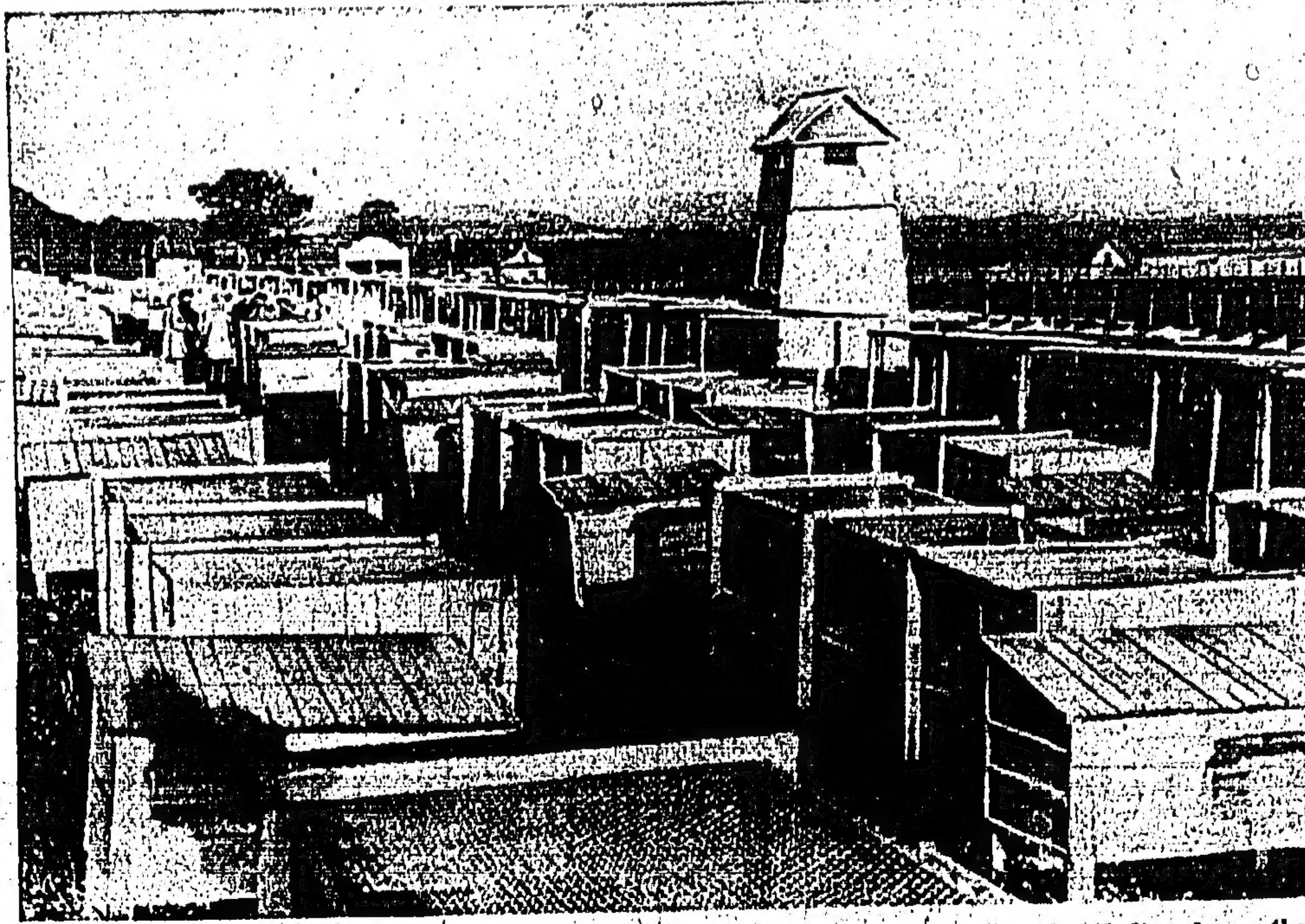
SNOW AMBULANCE—Pfc. Lawrence E. Hardwick, of the U.S. Army, is using his vehicle in Crawford, Nebraska, for rescue work. Several people have been taken from their snowbound homes to the local hospital in this makeshift ambulance.



MOTHER AND DAUGHTER—Posing for their portrait in London, these miniature papillons are Diana of Luvic and her seven-month-old daughter, Dream of Luvic. The puppy is attached to its mother so it can't get lost while out walking.



READYING COMMUNICATIONS—Men of the U.S. 58th Signal Battalion get linemen training in Kyoto, Japan, from instructors on the ground. After service in Australia and New Guinea, the 58th now operates communications for the U.S. First Corps in Japan.



NEW INDUSTRY—Russia is now entering the fur-producing business. These wooden shelters house the fur-breeding animals which have made the industry a successful enterprise in the Soviet state. Although a new industry, Russia boasts fur animal breeding farms in 300 areas.

JOAN BLONDELL

glamorous star says, "Pink lipstick's the Hollywood craze and 'Pink Queen' is the perfect pink."



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Tangee's new "Pink Queen" is dazzling as a diamond. It's bright. It's light. It's fashion right. And, of course, like all Tangee seven super-shades, it goes on easier...stays on longer. Yes, "Pink Queen" is Tangee's pink of perfection! Treat yourself to the perfect pink lipstick shade today.

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SOMETIMES WHEN A MAN COMES BACK THERE
ARE THINGS HE NEVER TALKS ABOUT !!!



● NEXT CHANGE ●
QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

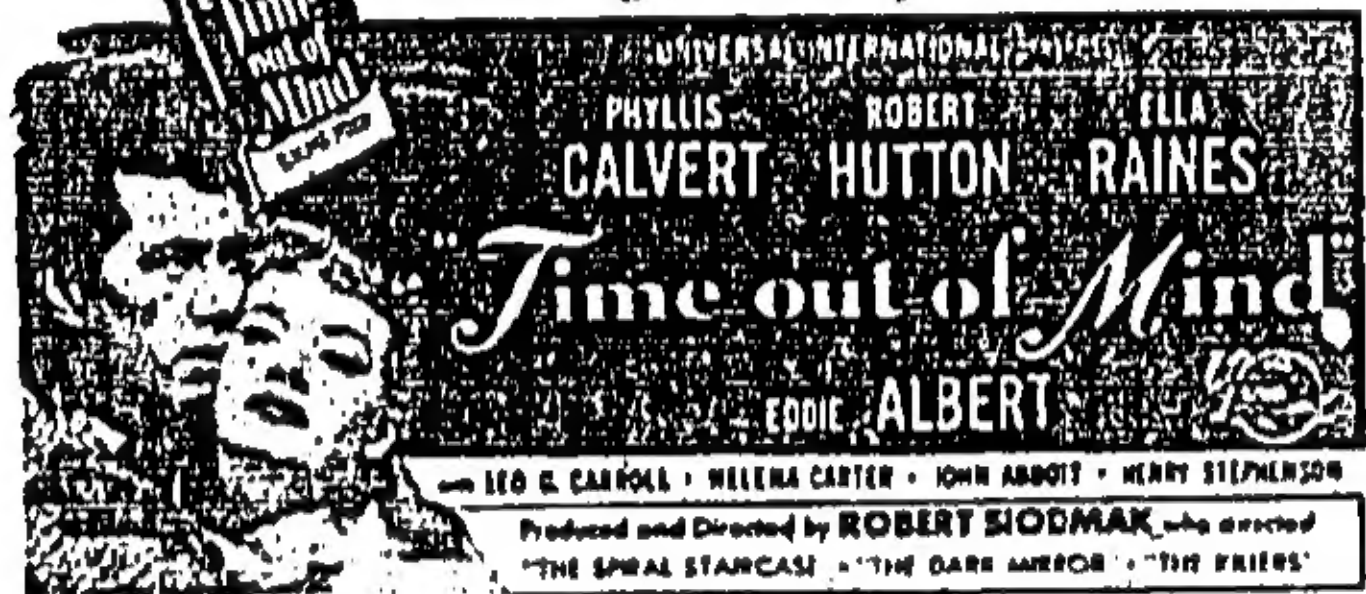
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Color by Technicolor with Rex HARRISON

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In Russian Dialogue with English Sub-title on Films
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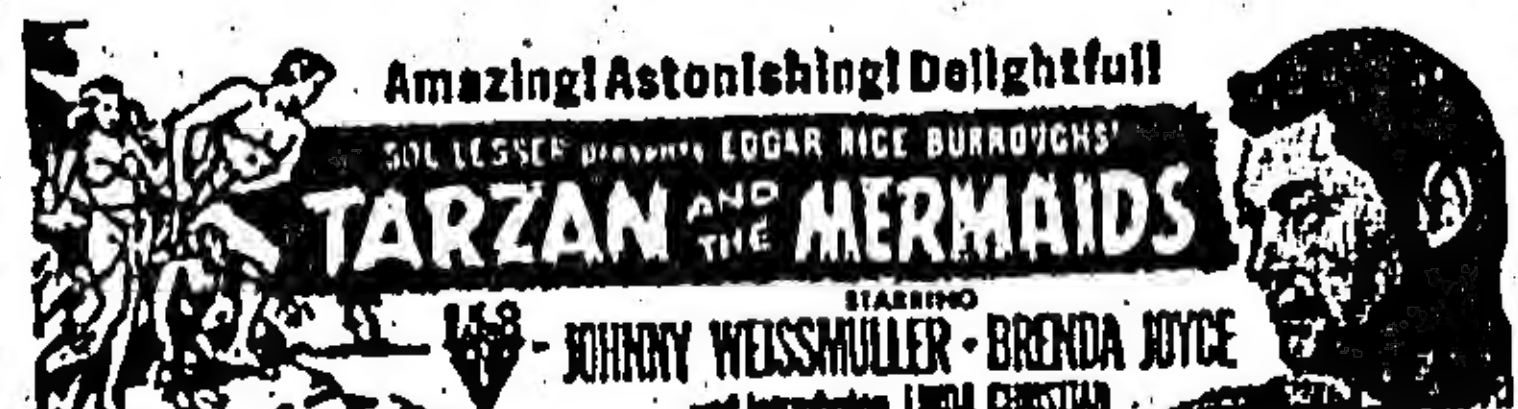
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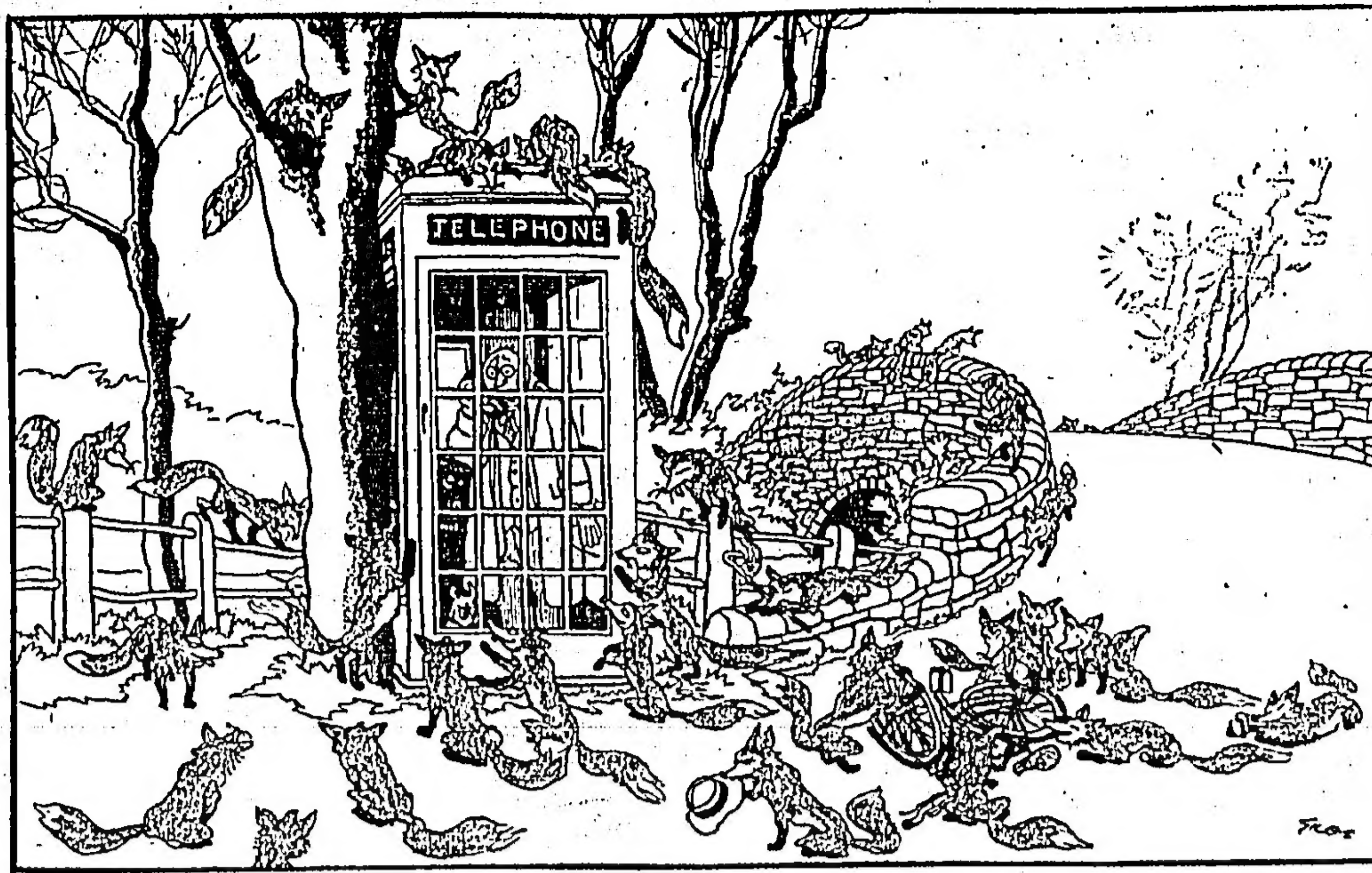
Never Such Funnel Dilling Music!
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Next Change "THE HOMESTRETCH"
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"Hallo—this is the secretary of the Anti-Blood Sports Society speaking."

FREDA UTLEY'S STORY OF HER LIFE.....SECOND INSTALMENT

I TRAVELLED to Moscow with Ivan Maisky and J. W. Brown, secretary of the most militant trade union in England, the Clerical Association, made up of office workers in Government service. Maisky, then Counsellor of the Soviet Embassy, later became Ambassador to England.

Visitors to the Soviet Union in those days were rare. Only invited delegates from trade unions and Labour parties got the chance to travel over Russia. There was no tourist, organised later as a propaganda and money-making service to bring visitors to Russia.

I was surrounded by kindness, hospitality and good fellowship. The market place of Moscow and other towns were filled with vegetables, dairy produce, milk and other foods. New apartment houses and office buildings were being built.

There was no lining up for bread and other foods at the state and co-operative shops, and one could buy delicious pastries for only five kopeks.

As early as 1924—the "Scissors Crisis" (the disproportion between the price of manufactured goods and agricultural produce) had split the Central Committee of the Bolsheviks into left and right factions.

Joined The Party

WITH Bucharin, Tomsky and the others on the right, Stalin had overcome Trotsky and was soon to exile him and the left opposition. Once rid of the Trotskyists, Stalin, in 1929, wiped out the right opposition and embarked upon an ultra-left policy of forced collectivisation and intensive industrialisation.

The USSR became a country of starved peasants and undernourished workers, cowed and whipped by fierce punishments to toil endlessly for a state which could not provide them even with enough to eat.

I saw the USSR during the prosperity between 1924 and 1928.

In September 1927 I returned to England full of

enthusiasm and prepared to tell the world of the wonders of the Russian socialist fatherland. I joined the Communist Party, and addressed meetings all over England.

Arcadi Berdichevsky, who became my husband in 1928, was a Russian Jew, who had studied at Zurich University and emigrated to the United States in 1914. In 1920 he had quit a good job in New York to work for the Soviet Government in London. He had been a member of the Bund, the Jewish Social Democratic party in Russian Poland, where he had once lived.

He was a sincere Socialist and believed as I did that a new and better world was being created in Russia.

Off To Moscow

ARCADI had been asked to join the Party, but felt that as he had played no part in the Revolution, he could not join now that the fighting was over.

Arcadi had a wife and a young son in New York. He had married the daughter of a well-to-do Jewish family of Russian extraction. They had become estranged when he gave up an income of \$600 a month in the United States to work at Arcos for \$150.

By the time I knew him, Arcadi's monthly salary had been increased to \$500. But his wife, Anna Abramovna, had neither understanding nor sympathy for his political views.

Arcadi and I knew that we loved each other after only a few meetings, but his separation from Anna Abramovna was a long and painful business. They were divorced when I finally went to Moscow.

In September 1927, Arcadi was suddenly told by the British Home Office that he must leave England at once.

I was very much in love, but I never for a moment

thought of giving up my work in England to go with him to Berlin, where he was stationed for the next nine months.

In February 1928, I was campaigning as the Communist Party's candidate in the London County Council elections, and was speaking to indoor meetings or at street corners every afternoon and evening. Meanwhile, I was earning a good living.

My fellowship ended in June 1928; Arcadi was in Russia but expecting to be sent to Japan, so I joined him in Moscow. Japan was the one country I particularly wished to visit, since my research work at the London School of Economics had concerned Eastern competition with the Lancashire cotton industry.

This time no smiling delegation met me at the Moscow station, and no luxurious quarters at the New Moscow Hotel awaited me. Arcadi took me to a tiny room, with a single bed, a chest of drawers and two straight chairs. We did not even have a table, and I used to cook and iron and write on the window sill.

Comintern Congress

ARCADI'S salary was 800 roubles a month. We just managed to live. Cigarettes were our greatest extravagance and difficulty. At the end of the month I used to cart bottles out to sell, or rake through our pockets for forgotten kopeks, to raise the price of a meal. We were very happy.

I attended the sixth Congress of the Comintern as a translator, listened to Bucharin from the visitors' gallery, and saw Michael Borodin, back from China, already disgraced but still a romantic figure. I thrilled at the sight of Comintern delegates from every corner of the globe, assembled in the socialist capital.

At last, after the OGPU had fully satisfied itself concerning my husband, he

obtained his passport to go to Japan for the Commissariat of Foreign Trade. We left early in October, with signs of coming hardships already visible in Moscow.

For weeks I spent more and more time chasing after food supplies. Peasants were refusing to sell their produce in return for money which could not buy them the clothing and other manufactured goods they required. Russia was on the eve of the Calvary of forced collectivisation.

Secret Papers

WE started from Moscow to Siberia in a compartment for two. The Russian railways do not separate men and women in sleeping cars.

Madame Anikeeva, wife of the Soviet Trade Representative in Japan, on the same train, objected to sharing her compartment with a strange man. We reluctantly agreed to let Anikeeva share the humbler compartment with me while Arcadi removed himself to the Pullman.

My greatest problem was to hide from Anikeeva the fact that the Comintern in Moscow had entrusted me with secret papers to take to China, and to invent a convincing story to explain why I was going to leave the train at Chita, in Siberia, to travel later to China alone, instead of directly to Japan. I managed it somehow.

A Triple Life

ALL I remember of Chita is the intense cold, and the memorials of the Decembrists, the 150 exiled revolutionaries of 1825 who had dreamed of liberty, equality and fraternity under the Iron Tsar, Nicholas I.

Only later was it to be borne in on me how mild had been the tyranny of the Tsars compared to that of Stalin. All those revolutionaries whose lives were spared and were allowed to live in Siberia with their families were in exile, it is

William Hickey

HIS THEME: MANNERS BY ORDER



have a common theme: Good Manners.

FOR the world's regular headline-hoggers it has been a period of comparatively quiet business.

Here in London at any rate their place on the lips of the people has been largely occupied by a girl from Greece, two energetic young men in Hammett-Smith, and a hitherto fairly obscure member of the Foreign Office by the name of MARCUS CHEKE. And all these people's affairs

For how do you assess the verdict in LANA KREMEZ'S breach of promise action? An damages against the man for breaking a young girl's heart? More likely a £10,500 lesson in Good Manners.

What shocked the British people about this case was not so much that a Greek girl had lost an English husband. It was the rudeness that went with losing him.

When LIEUT. COMMANDER RIDGEWAY omitted to tell Miss Kremez that everything was over he committed a misdemeanour the English do not readily forgive. He was plainly and simply rude.

"You can beat your wife, you can go bankrupt, you can run a bucket shop," said Henry James, "and the English will still like you. But to bring the wrath of the populace on your head—be impolite."

Mr. ESMANUEL SHINWELL found that out when he said the middle class didn't matter a tinker's cuss. It was not merely a silly remark—but a rude one.

Out from Transport House went a message from MORIGAN PHILLIPS: "No more rudeness of this kind, please; it is losing us votes."

MAYBE you have seen the result in the Hammett-Smith by-election tussle. Both candidates delivered their share of sharp language but in a more than usually verbose election. But oh, how polite and good humoured they were to each other personally!

A has found B "a decent fellow." B discovers A to be a "well-meaning chap"—and all done without any little guide books sent out from the head office on the model of the one discovered in Washington to be circulating among Britain's junior diplomats.

AN energetic social historian might very profitably (profitably if he succeeds) try to secure more details of this extraordinary document from that delicately polite ornament of the Foreign Office, Mr. Marcus Cheke—who himself should also try to find time one of these days to sit for Mr. OSBERT LANCASTER.

Can it be that these diplomats' manners are really so bad that they now have to be told how to behave at an embassy party?

Doesn't the callowest Third Secretary know that he should "contact his hostess at least, once during an evening party?"

Or does he have to be told... in a foreign house the host will not offer his guests the opportunity to retire. He should simply stroll through the drawing room, ask a servant to show him the cloakroom.

And before Mr. Cheke's book came out? Did he put up his hand and say, "Please, may I leave the room?"

AND what precisely would have been the Foreign Office Emily Post department's answer to a case which not so long ago cropped up in a British film studio?

There on the wall someone had chalked up "Richard Norton is a chump."

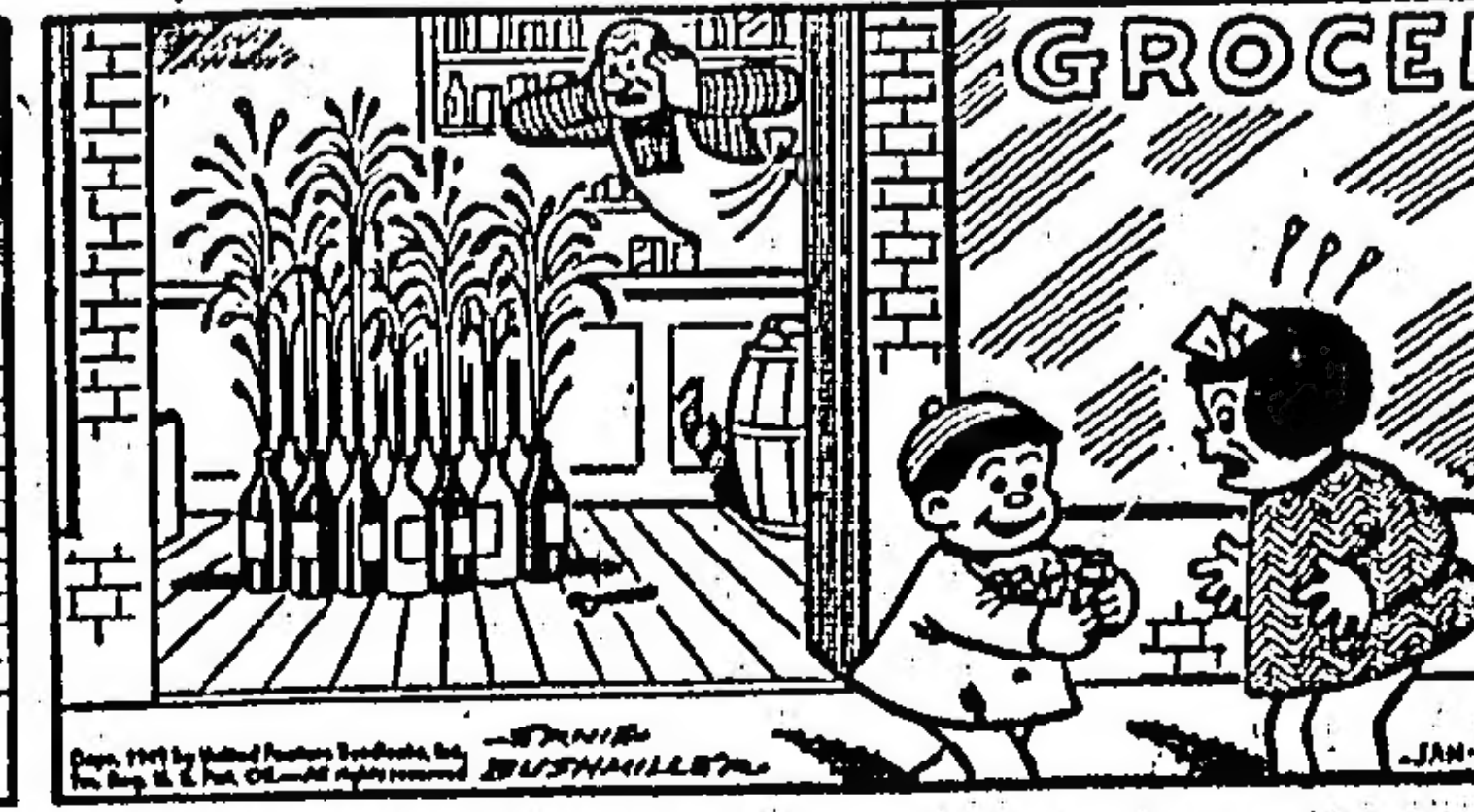
There standing in front of it was the man in the film, a man known in the film industry as one of the most persistent fighters for better British pictures.

What did he do? Did he follow the example of Alexander Cruden, author of Cruden's Concordance of the Bible, who used to walk for miles each day around London with a damp cloth in his hand sponging from the walls the slogans of his political enemy, John Wilkes?

Far from it. Instead, he picked up a piece of chalk, crossed out "Richard Norton," and wrote "Lord Granville"—the title he inherited in 1943.



NANCY Fizzy Business



By Ernie Bushmiller

Defence Counsel Begins Closing Address

PWD LARCENY TRIAL ENTERS TWELFTH DAY

The PWD larceny trial entered its twelfth day at the Criminal Sessions this morning when Mr A. J. Clifford, who is defending Arthur Frederick May, 41, electrical inspector, grade I, began his closing address before Mr Justice Williams and the jury.

Charged with May is Kwok Kwong, 47, foreman. They are both accused of three counts of theft by public servant and three of falsification of documents with intent to defraud the Government of money.

Kwok is not legally represented. The prosecution is conducted by Mr A. Hooton, Crown Counsel, assisted by Mr J. Johnston, A.S.P.

Before Mr Clifford began his final speech for the defence, Mr C. H. Thomas, Deputy Director of Medical Services, who was a witness for the prosecution, was recalled at the request of the defence.

His Lordship: Dr Thomas, I have asked you to come here to clear up a certain point. The point I want you to clear is where reference was made about Government workmen doing the job at Pokfulam in their spare time.

Dr Thomas: I have no recollection of hearing any conversation at the house between Mr May and Kwok Kwong about Government workmen doing the work. May brought up the matter when we were walking up the road and just about to leave the place. May spoke to me—I don't know how far Kwok was away from us then—but something to this effect: that Government workmen—presumably they were the workmen—might be willing if asked to do the work that I was wanting to be done in their spare time or on holidays.

His Lordship: Did you say anything about that? Did you make any remarks?

Dr Thomas: You will remember that I said that I was puzzled and was wondering how that could be done. May mentioned that it was quite all right if the men were working in their spare time. We were talking together. As I have said that idea did not appeal to me because—oh, there is this that I want to say—in connection with that, if such a plan succeeded I should have to pay the workmen individually and would have to buy or pay for materials as they were bought. Such a plan did not appeal to me because I could not visualise such a protracted job. So I did not pursue the matter. I did not make any suggestion. It was purely a suggestion. As I said before, if it were put to me if I wanted the job done, definitely, I would have decided no. It has weighed heavily on my mind that I did not emphasise that. It distresses me very much. If there is any misunderstanding on this point, I am truly deeply distressed.

His Lordship: Thank you, Dr Thomas. I think you have given us the fullest recollection of what happened.

Called by the defence, J. A. Bendall, Senior Accountant of the PWD, testified to a survey he made, on instructions, in September 1948 on the account of the PWD. He read an appendix to the report to the Director of Public Works which stated that in the electrical department there was a high standard and efficiently organised and this was a fact considered worthy of bringing to his attention. The system devised was a check on all operations. Inventories were up to date except in reference to electrical stores in other departments. There was a highly satisfactory state of affairs in view of the unusual conditions under which it had been obtained.

Replying to Mr Hooton, Bendall said that the report concerned the Wanchai stores. He did not investigate the system of work. He had checked the system of forms used at Wanchai.

When asked by the Foreman of the Jury whether he had seen the written instructions to the electrical workshop, witness replied in the negative. They had never come through him as senior accountant. It might have come up during his absence on home leave. He was primarily concerned with the head office and each section of the PWD had its own system.

Foreman: As a qualified man can you say whether or not you would have passed this system in its entirety?

Witness: I have not seen it. The system that you saw, would it be a system that could be operated at all times without any supervision?—No system in the world can be operated without supervision.

CRIMINAL CHARGE
Opening his speech for the defence at 10.30, Mr Clifford said that they were now dealing

with a criminal charge; and not a departmental inquiry. The jury had to decide whether May committed the criminal offences, not whether, in their opinion, he might have found out something, had he done something different.

In his submission, said Counsel, May had behaved logically throughout. "Did he deliberately steal PWD property? Did he deliberately and intentionally falsify accounts? Those are the questions before you," said Mr Clifford.

He went on to say that it was very easy for a person, having been caught red-handed, to say that so-and-so told him to do it. There was no witness in the world to prove his case and it was his word against the other man only. That was what Kwok Kwong was saying.

If that really was the issue would there not be something after all the enquiries of the Police that some person would mention May, but throughout the whole of the evidence of all the workmen May was never once mentioned. It was not even alleged that money was passed to May.

The second point he asked the jury to consider was whether a person would deliberately set a trap for himself. May had renewed and renovated the system at Wanchai and was always trying to get the system tighter and tighter. He tried to get the suspense account which would have made a complete check and dispensed with the double accounting system.

Would it make a net in which he was to be caught? asked Counsel. If May were doing what was alleged intentionally would he have left a written record of everything?

If he was, as the prosecution were saying, deliberately taking money out of the Wanchai Market to do other jobs, would he have left an official diary saying that in that period he had visited the market twice. The very record showed that there was in fact no guilt in May's mind.

STATEMENT UNTRUE

Referring to Kwok's "many transactions," Mr Clifford recalled his statement to the Police which he had made out to Kwok Kwong, which Kwok admitted that he had made to the Police. Kwok now said that certain portions were not true, and Mr Clifford added, "You members of the jury, will say to yourselves, if they were not true, why did he tell the Police in such clear language that they were true?"

Mr Clifford then read portions of the statement, to refresh the jury's memory, and pointed to instances where Kwok had deceived Europeans in the office and May. He contended that when Kwok was caught red-handed he turned and said that he never did any private contracting and when he was caught a second time Kwok had said that he did the work because he was told by May. "What evidence was that?" he asked.

The next point of interest was in the Lowbridge, Shackleton & Co. instance, because there was, Mr Clifford said, a false receipt and it was for \$70. If the jury accepted the story of Kwok Kwong and Ho Sung were going to collect this money for May for not having done any work at all. Did Kwok strike the jury as being an philanthropic as all that? asked Counsel.

Mr Clifford reminded the jury that Kwok had already been convicted of three lots of thefts and submitted that the present thefts were just another two on his list.

Speaking of the count dealing with Lowbridge, Shackleton & Co., Mr Clifford declared it to be most improbable that a man of May's position would stoop to allow his brother-in-law to be charged \$70 for Government property which was taken free. May's enquiry of whether Mr Heilmeyer had a bill for the lights, before he knew of Police investigations in that direction was significant of his innocence.

CONSPIRACY CHARGE
Mr Clifford alleged that there was a conspiracy among the office staff at Hungnam to deceive May. Not only did Ho Sung, brother-in-law of Kwok, go away, but so did the time-keeper at Wanchai office; while Kwok Hop, who was sent to collect money from Mr Heilmeyer, was also a relative of Kwok Kwong. The workmen

Boy Imprisoned In Own Home For Years

Boston, Mar. 14.—The strange story of a 14-year-old boy, who was kept a virtual prisoner in his home most of his life because he was allegedly illegitimate, was disclosed today by the police.

The authorities, who talked to Gerald Sullivan at the police station, told this story.

Until today he did not know whether he was a boy or a girl. He cannot read or write. His mother kept him locked in a room most of the time. His meals were brought to him in the room. He has never had a cat or a dog. He never had a light in his room at night. He told the time of year by the state of a tree outside his window. He had never heard of baseball.

IN GIRL'S CLOTHES

The police first found the boy when he escaped from home yesterday, barefoot and clad in a girl's torn clothing.

They subsequently arrested his mother, Mrs. Anna Frances Sullivan, 45, widow, and mother of three other children.

The police captain said she acknowledged the boy was her son and she had kept him locked up because he was illegitimate.

In court she was arraigned on a charge of neglect of a minor and held in US\$1,000 bail for hearing on Wednesday.

The boy was taken to another home. Someone asked him if he loved his mother and he said: "I don't love her. She was very bad to me."—United Press.

also knew, for Kwok had promised them extra pay presumably to come out of the money he was in carrying out private contracts.

The evidence of the attempt to deceive May by altering a lorry log sheet was proof of this conspiracy and if the jury accepted this, it was an acquittal for May because no one would attempt to deceive a co-conspirator.

Mr Clifford submitted that Kwok's version of the circumstances of the Heilmeyer job was completely false and that May's evidence on that point was true. It was sensible to get a Chinese person to buy things from shops, because they got them cheaper.

Mr Clifford said he agreed with Crown Counsel's opening speech that there was a similarity between the Heilmeyer case and Dr Thomas' case. He did not agree, however, that this was a point against May. Dr Thomas would not have paid for the production of a contractor's bill, and Kwok who had had practice in getting false bill-heads from the Cheong Hing Co., would have got another one for Dr Thomas.

The evidence of both Dr and Mr Thomas, to a great extent, supported May's evidence and showed that it was May's intention that either a contractor or Government men in their spare time should do the work.

May went there to do a service for a friend, to see which was the most economical lay-out. It was not preposterous that Government men would do the work in their spare time. All over the Colony men were working day and night and some doing double jobs.

COUNSEL'S WARNING

"The prosecution has asked you to infer guilt from the forms which have been signed. That is circumstantial evidence about which you have to be very careful," warned Mr Clifford, adding: "His Lordship has said that he himself has signed an inventory without checking every item."

Mr Justice Williams: "That is in a particular instance. I do not say all inventories without checking. I hope the jury won't go away with that idea. It was a private contract and nothing to do with public duty."

Mr Clifford went on to submit that it was virtually impossible for a person to check everything before signing. Unless one had a very large and efficient supervising staff, one could not guarantee that everything was working smoothly and properly as laid out. It was unfair to expect this of May.

May was trying, in between his ordinary jobs, to check things bit by bit and put them right. He was doing his best to put things in order and there was evidence of this. He had not yet got round to everything, nor had he succeeded in getting his inadequately-trained and under-paid staff going.

"I submit that a great deal of the blame falls on the head of the Government for getting people to do responsible jobs involving large sums on the pay of clerical staff," said Mr Clifford, adding that until May found out it was wrong, he had the right to assume the system he had started was going on and that his last-willions were being carried out.

With regard to the falsification of documents, it was clear that it was not of May's doing said Mr Clifford.

Romance In Legislature



Prosaic law-making gave way to cupid's business on the floor of the Idaho house of representatives. Rep. E.A. Snow of Council, Idaho, proposed publicly to Rep. Edith Miller of Boise and was accepted—after brief consideration. Both are Republicans. They are shown in a Boise office.—AP Picture.

Special Session Of W. Union Council Opens

(By Sylvain Mangeot, Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent)

London, Mar. 14.—The Foreign Ministers, together with the Defence and Finance Ministers, of the five Western Union powers, opening a two-day special session of the Union's Consultative Council here today, were believed to have discussed the Atlantic Pact and related defence matters.

Observers thought that among the matters discussed was the procedure and timing for participation in the Atlantic Alliance of Norway, Denmark, Italy, Iceland and Portugal.

The consideration of defence estimates was expected to take up some time on both days of the session. Questions on the proposed Council of Europe will come up tomorrow.

The United States, it was understood, will be kept closely informed of the discussions through Mr Lewis Douglas, the United States Ambassador in London, and General Marshall S. Carter, nominated today as Special Assistant to Mr Douglas for the "development and coordination of the military assistance programmes."

The two-day extraordinary session opened at Lancaster House today—with an agenda covering:

- 1.—Atlantic Union.
- 2.—The Council of Europe.
- 3.—The report of the Secretary-General of the Western Union on defence.
- 4.—The report of the social and cultural aspects of the Western Union.

Following a precedent established at previous Consultative

OUTWARD MAILS

With effect from March 1, 1949, all correspondence intended to be forwarded by air to London only and then by surface mail to destinations, will be superseded by "fly air" London only. In future it will not be sufficient to merely supersede such correspondence "via London."

Air Mail Service to Tientsin and Peking is temporarily suspended until further notice. Unless otherwise stated, regular air mail and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mails close before 10 a.m., registered and parcel posts close at 5 p.m. on the previous day. Mails are closed at Kowloon Central Post Office half an hour earlier than the GPO closing times.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15
Closing Times by Air:
Swatow, Amoy, Ningbo, Tsingtao and Hiohow, 3.30 p.m.
Manila, Honolulu, USA & Canada, 5 p.m.
Air Parcel Post for Manila, Honolulu, USA & Canada, 4.30 p.m.
(GPO) 5 p.m.

Ordinary Airmail (Printed Matters, Samples & Small Packet Post) for Manila, Guam, Honolulu and USA, (GPO) 4.30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.
Bangkok, 5 p.m.
Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Dacca, Alexandria (Nairobi), Johannesburg & Marseilles via Alexandria, Rome and London, (CPO) 4.30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.

Closing Times by Sea:
Ceylon, India, Madagascar, Aden, Egypt and United Kingdom via London, 1 p.m. (reg); 2.30 p.m. (reg); 3 p.m. (ord).
Shanghai, 3 p.m.
Formosa via Keelung, 3 p.m.
Amoy, 3 p.m.
Manila and Swatow, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, March 16
Closing Times by Air:
Swatow and Amoy, 3.30 a.m. (reg); 5 a.m. (ord).
Shanghai, 9 a.m. (reg); 9.30 a.m. (ord).
Manila, 12.30 p.m.
Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Dacca, Alexandria, Johannesburg & Marseilles via Alexandria, Rome and London, (CPO) 4.30 p.m.; (GPO) 5 p.m.

Closing Times by Sea:
Bangkok, 10 a.m.
Hiohow, Pakhoi via Hiohow and Swatow, 1 p.m.
Shanghai, 3 p.m.
Amoy and Japan, 5 p.m.

US Coal "Holiday" Begins

Pittsburgh, Mar. 14.—John L. Lewis' 425,000 miners closed all coal mines east of the Mississippi River today by the simple procedure of staying at home.

While the miners obediently heeded their two-week holiday with no picketing or demonstrations, huge stockpiles of coal enabled the steel mills to continue their record-breaking production.

The American Iron and Steel Institute said the steel industry would reach an operating rate of 102 percent of theoretical capacity this week.

If so, it would mark the ninth consecutive week American steelmakers have produced at 100 percent or better.

At the beginning of the walk-out, the national coal stockpile was 67,500,000 tons, the biggest since the start of the war, but the two-week holiday or pre-test is expected to cost 24,000,000 tons of coal, or about one-third of the amount on hand.

Hardest hit by the walk-out after the miners by themselves—who stand to lose an estimated \$17,000,000 in wages—were the Eastern railways. They are giving furloughs to 59,000 men employed in transporting coal.

The shut-down began without incident on the first shift. Only supervisory personnel and maintenance crews, who keep the water pumps and ventilating systems in working order, showed up.—United Press.

BRITAIN'S WARNING NOTE

(Continued from Page 1)

Observers in Rhodes today were uneasy over the prospects of a flare-up in the Palestine war. They regarded the Iraqi-held central sector as a danger spot.

The area based on the Arab triangle formed by Tulkarm, Nablus and Jenin, is not covered by any cease fire agreement.

The agreement reached at Rhodes last week between Israel and Transjordan stops at the southernmost point of the triangle, where the Iraqi-held area begins.

Tension in this area has been rising rapidly in the past few days and the Israelis have complained of "cattle raids" from the triangle into their territory.

They threaten reprisals. United Nations observers are investigating. Israel charges that Arab reinforcements have poured into the triangle.—Reuter.

China Situation Latest

(Continued from Page 1)

did not want to give the impression that he should be rewarded with an official position for the recent peace mission to North China, which resulted in the resumption of postal and shipping services.

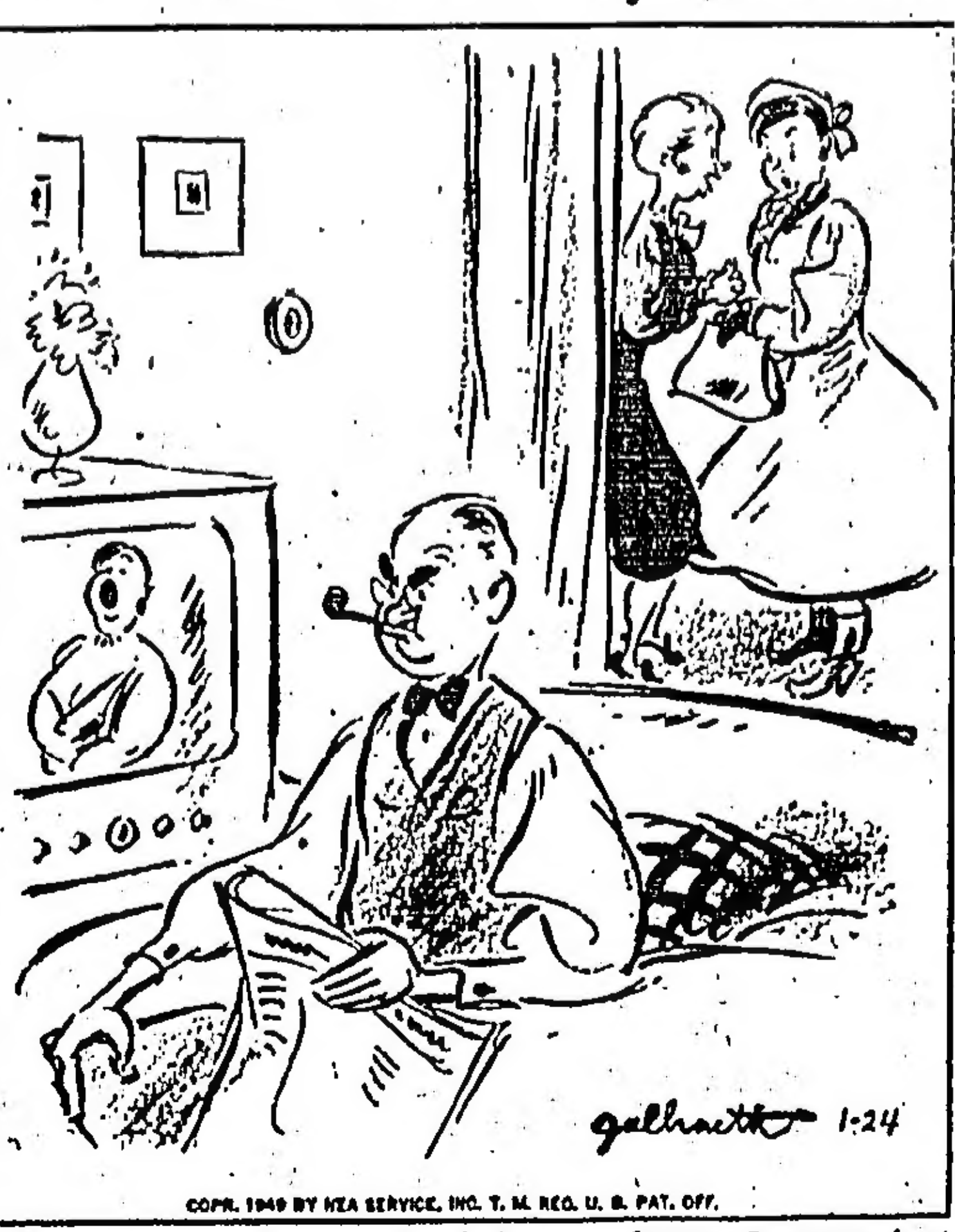
Mr. Kiang Yung, however, said he would help General Ho's Government in a private capacity.

The third member of the Shanghai delegation, Mr. Chang Shu-chao, was reported to have agreed to taking the portfolio of Judicial Administration.

The Young China Party leaders, Mr. Tso Shun-sheng and Mr. Li Huang, postponed a decision on whether to join General Ho Ying-chin's Cabinet or not until the party's Central Executive Committee had discussed the matter.

General Ho was scheduled to leave last night by train for Nanking.—Reuter.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



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Radio Hongkong

Programme Summary: 6.01, Ted Heath and His Orchestra with Paul Carpenter's Vocalists; 6.30, Cantoneses by Radio Given by Miss Lee Wan Lan & S. L. Leo (Studio); 6.50, Benny Carter and His Orchestra; 7. World News and News Analysis (London Relay); 7.15, "See You" Talks on Sport (Studio); 7.25, Interlude; 7.30, "Down Memory Lane" Presented by Aileen Woods (Studio); 8. "From the Editor's Desk" (London Relay); 8.10, "Nothing but Music" Sidney Torch & Queen's Hall Light Orchestra (ORHS); 8.40, Selections from Operas: "30 Questions" Residents: Aileen Dekker—Douglas Galt—John Colley. Guest: Allan Blair-Kerr. Question Master: Peter Gregory (Studio); 9.30, "The Good-Bye Bands" A Feature Programme (BBCRS); 10, Radio News Hour (London Relay); 10.15, Weather Report; 10.16, Chamber Music Festival; Sonata No 3 in D Minor. Op 108

Democrats Move Headquarters

Shanghai, Mar. 14.—The Chinese Communist Radio announced today that the Headquarters of the Democratic League has been officially removed from Hongkong to Peking. It said that a temporary working committee has been working in Peking since February 5.

Outlawed by the Nationalists, the Democratic League has been operating in Hongkong since October 27, 1947.—United Press.

(Dramas) Joseph Seigelt, (Violin) and Egon Petri (Piano); 10.40, Music for Dancing; 11.00, Weather Report and Close Down.

COLONY BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Seeded Players Eliminated In Junior Matches

By "SIDELINER"

The Colony Open Badminton Championships entered their third week of play when six matches were decided at the Victoria Recreation Club last evening, the programme being featured by two upsets in the Junior Men's Division.

In the Singles, W. C. Chung, last year's runners-up in the Junior Men's Singles and seeded No. 1 in the present tournament, lost to his clubmate and doubles partner D. C. Lau 15-8, 15-11.

In the Junior Men's Doubles H. F. Tai & W. N. Cheung combined brilliantly to overcome the seeded pair, P. Wong & S. C. Chan, 15-9, 15-7.

The Senior Men's Doubles found the favourites for this year's title, Robert Tay & Patrick Wong, taking three hard-fought games to subdue their YMCA clubmates, Raymon Young & Bill Funk, the score was: 16-6, 12-15, 15-7.

The match saw many fast and brilliant rallies with all four concentrating on the forecourt. Tay & Wong outshone their opponents with vigorous smashes but it was Funk who delighted with his clever placement shots and drops. Young made several spectacular cross-court drops at the net but was inclined to be wild in the smashing exchanges.

The first set saw Tay & Wong run into a 4-2 lead through Young's over-enthusiasm.

Then, by carefully controlling their smashes, Young and Funk led 6-4. At this stage Tay & Wong launched a one-man attack and his smashes found the baseline again and again.

Wong gave his partner great support at the net and the pair won eight points in a row. Young then won two points with excellently executed cross-court drops which left Tay & Wong looking helplessly on. Tay regained mastery and won the next three points for the set at 15-8.

The second set saw Funk relying more on placement shots and power smashes and, with Young finding his touch, Tay & Wong never got a look in.

Their hardest smashes were returned and, though they levelled the score at 12-12, Funk won three more points on his service to force the playing of the deciding game.

With Young misfiring again, the third set found Tay & Wong leading 10-2. Fighting hard, Funk & Young brought the score to 10-7 by carefully placing their shots, forcing Tay to net his smashes and drops.

However, the effort to close the gap in the score proved too much for them and their strokes went off when Tay, again, let loose with his smashing attack from the baseline and the deciding set went to Tay & Wong 15-7.

JUNIOR MEN'S SINGLES
D. C. Lau showed remarkable form in his match with W. C. Chung, his lobbing, smashing and placing being a treat to see. His greater repertoire of strokes told out in the end.

Trailing 4-8, Lau began to force the pace with powerful overhead smashes and accurate lobs to the back of the court which proved too much for Chung, who lost the next 11 points to concede the set.

In the second game, Lau continued to hit with tremendous power, forcing Chung into many errors of judgment. Though Chung levelled the score at 11-11 by alternating drives with short lobs, he failed to hold the brilliant Lau who, using all the strokes at his command, ran out the set and match at 15-11.

Another Junior Men's Singles match saw Z. A. Soares just manage to turn the tables on M. Kempton after three sets—10-15, 19-15, 15-12. Both players were seen at their best in the first set.

Kempton's smashing was nothing if not superb. After winning the first set, Kempton had the match within his grasp when he led 13-7 in the second. But Soares staged a grand recovery and drew level. Kempton began to tire and Soares' superior stamina pulled him through to the next round.

LADIES' DOUBLES
Mrs L. F. Stokes & Miss Tanworth proved too good for the two sisters, Miss Bernadine Remedios & Miss Therese Remedios, winning 15-9, 15-8. Both Mrs Stokes and Mrs Tanworth alternated playing at the net and both were prominent with their smashes and drops from all parts of the

court. Miss Bernadine Remedios played a grand game in the backcourt but she failed to stem the tide against the better KCC combination.

LADIES' SINGLES
Miss Margaret Xavier proved last night she is a serious contender for the Ladies' Singles title when she easily defeated Miss Helen Kwong 11-6, 11-3. She showed an all-round command of strokes besides perfect match temperament and her coverage of the court left little to be desired.

Miss Helen Kwong put up a plucky fight against her more experienced opponent, though she failed to match her opponent's command of strokes and was inclined to be erratic at critical periods.

JUNIOR MEN'S DOUBLES
Second upset of the evening was when H. F. Tai and W. N. Cheung beat the seeded pair, Paul Wong and S. C. Chan, 15-9, 15-7. Tai and Cheung were definitely the pick of the two pairs last evening.

Cheung's smashing from the rear court coupled with Tai's fine performance at the net would have beaten any other Junior pair last night.

Wong was inclined to be erratic while his partner failed to give his usual polished performance at the net.

Both Tai and Cheung concentrated their attack on Chan and his partner gave Wong the chance to use his deadly overhead smash.

THE RESULTS
Results of the Badminton Open Championship matches played at V.R.C. last evening are:
Junior Men's Doubles—H. F. Tai & W. N. Cheung beat P. Wong & S. C. Chan 15-9, 15-7.
Junior Men's Singles—D. C. Lau beat W. C. Chung 15-8, 15-11.
Ladies' Doubles—Mrs L. F. Stokes & Miss Tanworth beat Miss Bernadine Remedios & Miss Therese Remedios 15-9, 15-8.

Century v. MCC

Capetown, Mar. 14.—B. Crews, Capetown University all-rounder, celebrated his birthday here today with a century against the MCC.

It was largely due to his efforts that the Combined Universities were able to score 269 for 8 wickets in reply to first innings total of 477 by the MCC.

Crews was run out for 104 in the closing minutes of play. Going in when two wickets were down for 50, Crews flogged the MCC spin attack of Jenkins, Wright and Compston and raced to his 50 in 33 minutes on the slow pitch.

Crews put on 88 with Elley (50) for the third wicket and was helped by Birrell (50) in a fourth wicket stand of 102.

With four men out for 246, Wright and Palmer brought about a minor collapse, the next four Universities' wickets falling for 20 runs.—Reuter.

KCC 2nd XI

The KCC second eleven will meet the RN Dockyard in a friendly cricket match on the Navy ground, King's Park, next Saturday, starting at 2 o'clock.

The KCC will be represented by S. A. Gray (Capt), E. A. J. Hancock, S. C. Trueman, E. G. Matthews, D. G. White, W. H. Cowie, R. Leigh, G. R. Roselle, E. Guest, and C. Langston-Jones.

Manila Interport

A meeting of the Interport Sub-Committee of the Hong Kong Football Association will be held at 5.15 p.m. tomorrow to select the Manila Interport team.

B. Remedios & Miss T. Remedios
15-9, 15-8.
Ladies' Singles—Miss Margaret Xavier beat Miss H. Kwong 11-6, 11-3.
Senior Men's Doubles—H. F. Tai & W. N. Cheung beat P. Wong & S. C. Chan 15-9, 15-7.

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Tonight's games at the Kowloon Cricket Club are:
7.00 p.m. (Junior Men's Doubles): R. M. Soares and J. A. Soares v L. Pomeroy and G. Reza Pereira.
7.30 p.m. (Junior Men's Singles): C. H. Ngan v K. P. Chong.

8.00 p.m. (Ladies' Doubles): Miss M. Leong and Miss A. Heah v Miss T. Baptista and Miss Margie Xavier.

8.30 p.m. (Junior Mixed Doubles): A. J. Gonsalves and Miss M. Silva v S. Guttinger and Miss M. Bain.

9.00 p.m. (Ladies' Doubles): Miss I. Soares and Miss Y. Franco v Miss H. Kwong and Miss H. P. Lam.

9.30 p.m. (Junior Men's Doubles): E. M. Rozario and J. A. Motta v F. M. Ribeiro and T. E. Rodrigues.

COLONY TENNIS

One-Sided Matches

The strong combination of Ip Koon-hung and Lee Wai-tong, contenders for the doubles title, disposed of the veteran Ho Ka-lau and Pang Oi-lam at Chater Road yesterday. They won in two straight sets, 6-2, 6-1, to enter the next round of the Colony Open Doubles Championship.

Slight rain at the end of the first set caused a brief postponement.

On resumption, Ho and Pang made a great effort and managed to take the first game, but thereafter Ip and Lee came into their own and, asserting themselves, took the next six games in a row. Ho and Pang annexed only one point in the last three games.

Pang was the better of the losing pair, while Lee was responsible for some clever net play which had the losers beaten on nearly every occasion. Ip played over some splendid spin service which garnered several points.

On another Court, Tsui Wai-pui and Tsui Yan-pui did not have much trouble in defeating D. J. Leonard and L. F. de Souza in two straight sets; they only lost three games. The Tsui brothers took the first set after eight games and won the next 6-1.

OTHER RESULTS

HKCC Singles
B.T.M. Jones beat G.B. Smart, 6-3, 6-1.
P.H. Bonnerman beat A. Furrer, 6-1, 6-1.
R. Segalen beat Dr. H. Meyer, 6-4, 6-4.

TODAY'S GAMES
COLONY OPEN DOUBLES
Court 1: F.M. Ribeiro and T. E. Rodrigues v Tsui brothers.
Court 2: Lee Yue-wing and Wong Shui-wing v Lee Wai-tong and K.K. Ip.

Club Singles
Court 3: J.D. Mackie v D. Nolan.
Court 4: B.T.M. Jones v P. H. Bonnerman.
Court 5: J.B. Hawthorn v R. Segalen.
Court 6: J.L.C. Pearce v M. Hecan.

Manila Interport
A meeting of the Interport Sub-Committee of the Hong Kong Football Association will be held at 5.15 p.m. tomorrow to select the Manila Interport team.

KCC 2nd XI
The KCC second eleven will meet the RN Dockyard in a friendly cricket match on the Navy ground, King's Park, next Saturday, starting at 2 o'clock.

The KCC will be represented by S. A. Gray (Capt), E. A. J. Hancock, S. C. Trueman, E. G. Matthews, D. G. White, W. H. Cowie, R. Leigh, G. R. Roselle, E. Guest, and C. Langston-Jones.

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AFTER THE BATTLE



Referee Walter Cho (left) raises the hand of smiling Manuel Ortiz after the world's bantamweight boxing champion handed Honolulu's Dado Marino (right) a beating in their 15 round championship fight at Honolulu on March 1. AP Wirephoto.

Grand National Winners & Story Book Careers

By WALTER PILKINGTON

The Lincolnshire Handicap on March 19 will usher in a new season for horse racing in Britain. The popularity of this one mile sprint last year has attracted a new record field. One week after the Lincoln comes the climax of the National Hunt season, the Grand National at Aintree racecourse, Liverpool. The most popular of the winter jumps, it shares world fame with the Derby, at Epsom in June.

As in the last three years, there is a huge entry list for the National. The handicapper had to deal with no fewer than 53 horses. Nearly one third were put on bottom weight. Most of the prominent jumpers of the post-war period have entered, including the best priced winner for some years, Lovely Cottage, and the Irish horse, Caughoo, which won at a hundred to one in 1947.

Notable absentee is that grand veteran, Prince Regent, which finished third three years ago. Subsequently it carried too much weight to have a real chance. Its owner, cinema magnate J. Arthur Rank, has yet to realise his dream of winning this great race. The Prince was his greatest hope after he had been successful in the Scottish, Welsh, and Irish Grand Nationals.

One horse which many fancy to win the National this year is Bricett, which as a yearling was bought for 200 guineas by a Mr. Nelson Dixon, who lost his life in Britain's Royal Navy on war service. The rest of Bricett's story is a romance. Sold by auction he made only nine guineas. Then he was badly injured in mistiming a jump. He was put out to grass and forgotten. Finally he was given away to jockey Tim Malony. Bricett was not fit to race again until 1945. Sent to England the following year, he won a three-mile race and found a purchaser at £2,500. He has never looked back.

STORY BOOK CAREERS

There are many similar instances of story book careers. Mac Moffat, twice runner up in the Grand National, cost his owner only £70. Revelry cost £10,000 but once changed hands for a mere £20. Reclamation was once exchanged for three sacks of oats. Even the peer of modern steeplechasers, Prince Regent, was first purchased for 340 guineas. He became worth many times this sum. The moral has been pointed in an old English saying—never look a gift horse in the mouth.

The object of the Grand National is to test the stamina and jumping ability of the best steeplechasers, at weights which give each horse an equal chance. The formidable nature of the fences unflinchingly overcomes the majority.

There are 14 thorn fences, including the feared Canal turn, Valentine's Brook, and that graveyard of hundreds of National hopes through the years, Becher's Brook. This is not the highest jump or the widest.

The third jump is an inch higher and equally wide, with a six feet ditch to take on the far side. One "veteran" requires a 15-foot leap and the waterway itself is over 12 feet wide. But Becher's Brook always brings more horses to grief than any other obstacle.

All the fences have to be jumped twice. Unfortunately, perhaps, there are always some runners, and much interference in consequence from loose and fallen horses. It is not surprising that few finish. Some years ago I saw a gallant horse fall to win, through being hampered over the last fence by a gelding's horse.

Two or three years ago Prince Regent, then the favourite, had a similar experience and failed to make up the lost distance on the 494 yards run in. It is all part of the great gamble which makes the Grand National both a lottery and memorable experience for the half million or so who come from the four quarters of Britain every year to see the thrill of a massed start and all the other dramatic episodes of this century-old panorama of horse racing.

CALLED A LOTTERY

Little wonder it is called a lottery. In 16 races in the last 20 years the odds have only once been below ten to one. That was in 1934, when renowned Golden Miller, seven-year-old and carrying the top weight of over 12 stone, came in first at eight to one.

Tipperary Tim, Gregalach and Caughoo provided a bookmakers' paradise by winning when 100 to one outsiders. Forbra and Shella's Cottage made fortunes for their backers at half that price. When the best jumpers unaccountably fail it is not surprising that punters habitually plunge on outside chances.

It is therefore not without significance that the first Grand National in 1839 was won by a horse called Lottery. In those days the race was for gentlemen or amateur riders only. It was a sweep-stake of £10 each, with £20 added.

Today the added money is £5,000, and it costs £10 to enter, with an ultimate liability of £100. For the first time, all horses carried 12 stone. The race had become a handicap when in 1847 professional jockeys were allowed to compete for what has become the world's blue ribbon of steeplechasing.

British sportsmen being romantic, many thousands hope

to see Lord Mildmay successful in this year's bid for glory. He has long been a popular figure in National Hunt racing. His unencumbered ambition is to win the Grand National. He nearly did so on Davey Jones. He was winning, when the reins broke in his gallop to the final fence. Last year he finished third, on Cromwell. Again he might have won if an injury had not forced him to ride with an arm strapped to his side.

Lord Mildmay is 41, a typical sporting peer. He has ridden in the Grand National since 1933. Good luck to him this spring!

VICTORIA CLUB

CALLOVER

Fair Judgment New Favourite For Lincolnshire

London, Mar. 14.—Fair Judgment was made the favourite for the Lincolnshire Handicap when the card on the "Spring Double" was called over at the Victoria Club here tonight.

Now quoted at 19 to 2, the Newmarket-trained four-year-old is reported to have done a splendid gallop over the week-end and he displaced the French-bred Drakkar as favourite. Drakkar drifted just over two points from 9 to 1 to 100 to 1.

A feature of the Lincolnshire callover was the appearance in the betting of the topweight Royal Tara. Following his victory in a three-mile steeplechase at Windsor on Saturday, Lord Mildmay's Cromwell became a firm favourite at 9 to 1 for the Grand National.

QUOTATIONS

Lincolnshire
Tonight's quotations were:
19 to 2 Fair Judgment.
100 to 1 Drakkar.
100 to 1 Spurred.
22 to 1 Patchouly and Royal Tara.

25 to 1 Crown Flatts, Star Signal and Romano.
23 to 1 Speciality.
23 to 1 Bright Paul, Lord Nelson, Philadelphia, Red Pipin, Sea Shah.
40 to 1 Queue Up, Totin Shah and Yellow Idol.

Grand National
9 to 1 Cromwell.
20 to 1 Clercarrig.
22 to 1 Happy Home, Roi Mond.

25 to 1 Royal Mount, Uster Monarch and Cavaliero.

33 to 1 Rowland Roy.—Reuter.

RUGGER NEEDS A DRESSING UP

SAYS JOHN MACADAM

We haven't finished with the game of Rugby, and please don't think it for a minute for, what with one thing and another, and the colossal complacency that surrounds this game-for-game's sake, we are spurred to break once more into the breach, dear friends.

It has been said before, and we have no apology to make for repeating it, that Rugby football should be played on a more competitive and much less casual basis.

Colleague Pat Marshall, who has played the game boy and man and still wishes it with his boyhood enthusiasm, repudiates our original suggestion of a Rugby Union Championship conducted on Football League lines, but sees the potentiality of a knock-out competition based on the counties.

The counties would find a champion earlier in the early part of the season and then, in the latter part of the season, in the midst of all the traditional fixtures the clubs would be able to fix for themselves, there could be a K.O. competition rather like the Soccer Cup.

It would do no harm, he agrees, and would put a bit into the game which it certainly hasn't got at the moment; more than that, it would put a bit of class into the England selection, that hasn't been able to find a winning side for nearly two years.

LOSING APPEAL

And now, here's our old friend, Major John Evans, one of the honorary secretaries of the Rugby Football Club, to agree in principle, if not in detail.

"The time has come," he says with the Walrus, "when we must face up to the fact that Rugby is losing its appeal. Soccer has a competitive appeal that Rugby lacks—take away leagues and cup and see the effect on Soccer!"

"As it is, thousands will watch a watery game of Third Division Soccer while only hundreds will watch a full-blooded first-class Rugby match in a neighbouring field."

Major Evans, an enthusiast for Rugby football, is not content to keep to tradition and watch the game die a natural death and he has two major suggestions to make: he will dress Rugger up a little by cutting out stoppages, and he will vivify the watchers by introducing some form of competition that is lacking at the moment, this being where you came in.

WEMBLEY MODEL

The gallant major (he got himself a DSO in the war, as a matter of fact) isn't prepared at this stage to state what law revisions he would make, but any student of Rugby League football would be prepared to brief you here, and if you happen to be located in the South there is the Wembley Rugby League Final to be regarded as a model—if you are lucky.

But he is prepared to say that the leading dozen clubs in each county should play each other at least once a year, and if you happen to be the better part of 24 of their 40-odd games a season. There would still be plenty of dates for invitations and tours.

He has plenty of ideas on a projection of county championships into area championships and the like.

Can you imagine Cardiff and Waterloo at Twickenham?



Ramsey Bucks To Fight Bob Pulling

Boxing fans will have an opportunity shortly of seeing Bob Pulling, of the Royal Navy, and Inter-Services Welter and Middle-weight Champion in Hongkong, matched against Ramsey Bucks, the Lightweight Champion of Hongkong and Shanghai, over six rounds.

Pulling holds the following championships:
R.N.V.R.—Champion of Great Britain: Featherweight Division 1937; Lightweight Division 1938. South Division Champion of Great Britain: Lightweight Division 1938. Mediterranean Fleet Champion: Lightweight 1941/2. Inter-Services Welter and Middle-weight Champion, Hongkong, 1947/8.

Rumour is that this will be Pulling's last fight in the Colony. He is 33 years old, and he will be leaving the Hongkong station in June 1949.

Charities Strike A Double

Philadelphia, Mar. 14.—Jack Kramer and Bobby Riggs, the two top professional tennis players, today settled a US\$25,000 damage suit against them by agreeing to play in tournaments sponsored by the "Philadelphia Inquirer Charities" for the next few years.

Damages were sought by Inquirer Charities for admission fees it allegedly lost when Riggs did not appear in the 1948 tournament.

In settling the suit, Kramer, world's pro champion, agreed to play in Inquirer Charities tennis tournaments for the next three years, while Riggs, former champion, agreed to play for the next five years.—United Press.

League Cricket Averages

BATTING:

	Inn.	N.O.	Runs	H.S.	Aver.
G. N. Gosano (Recreio)	17	6	498	62*	45.27
A. M. Prata (Recreio)	14	5	387	85*	43.00
L. F. Stokes (Scorpions)	10	2	593	110	42.35
J. M. Gosano (University)	14	3	417	122*	37.00
H. Owen-Hughes (Scorpions)	12	0	215	39*	35.00
T. A. Pearce (Scorpions)	11	1	129	95	32.00
R. W. Fenwick (Optimists)	14	3	358	91	32.54
Major A. R. Dave (Army)	13	3	309	78	30.00
L. D. Kilbee (Optimists)	14	2	345	85*	28.75
Dr. E. L. Gosano (Recreio)	14	4	284	79	28.40
G. A. Souza (Craigengower)	15	4	276	49	25.09
N. R. Oliver (Optimists)	15	0	309	64	24.00
O. J. Kerr (Scorpions)	14	4	222	53	22.20
F. Howarth (Scorpions)	12	3	203	57*	22.55
A/C J. S. Beirne (RAF)	12	2	210	71	21.00
L. C. Gosano (Recreio)	14	2	253	56	21.08
G. T. Rowe (Optimists)	15	1	251	01	17.92
D. Chelliah (University)	13	0	224	47	17.23
M. M. Little (Optimists)	14	1	222	56*	17.07
A. Zimmermann (KCC)	16	6	204	42	16.50
Maj C. R. Murray-Brown (Army)	15	2	208	52*	15.84
N. Hart-Baker (CCC)	14	0	210	00	15.57

Burma May Rejoin The British Commonwealth

POCKET CARTOON



Tension Grows In Italy

Police Guards For Consulates

Rome, Mar. 14.—Police guards were strengthened around the United States and British Consulates in Italy tonight as tension grew over the North Atlantic security pact.

The Communist-controlled National Labour Confederation called a meeting to discuss calling a limited general strike in protest against the alliance which Italy has been asked to join.

In Rome, Milan, Turin and Bologna, officials said police and carabinieri had been alerted for extra duty. The police said extra guards at the foreign Consulates were posted "as a more routine precaution" in the event of demonstrations developing against the Western pact.

The Parliamentary debate on the pact resumed today, but only secondary Party speakers took part. Most attention was centred on Labour's plans and on the Communists' obvious preparations for a public clamour in protest against any Italian participation in the Western pact.

PRECAUTIONS IN ROME

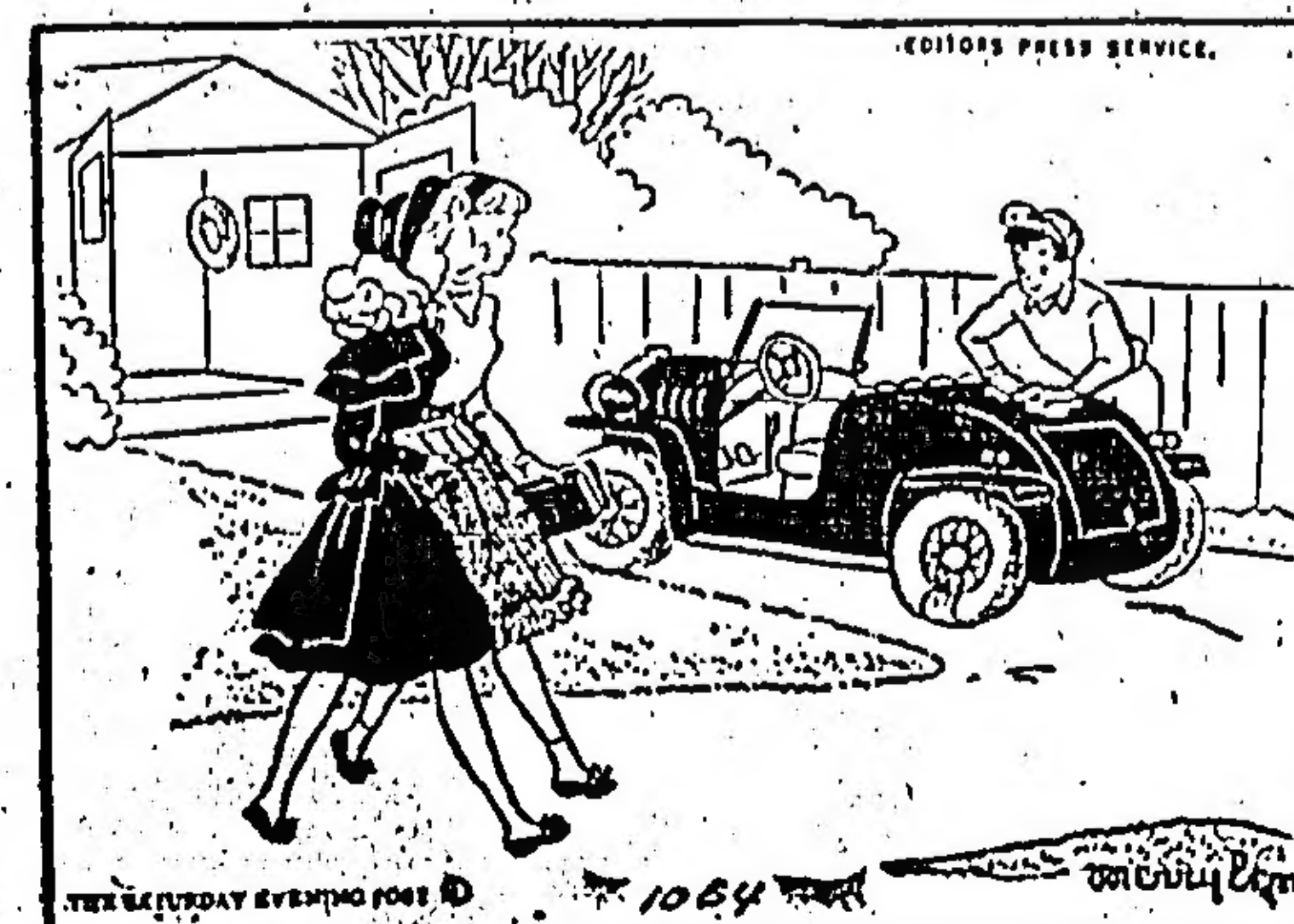
Extra street police, riot squad jeeps and police trucks were stationed in Rome's major squares tonight. It was the first time since the hectic pre-election days of early 1948 that such police reinforcements were in evidence.

The three Communist Deputies returned from Milan today after weekend consultations with Milan labour leaders on the line of action to be taken against the Atlantic alliance. The spokesman for the Communist Deputies outlined their position with this statement: "We can do nothing in Parliament because the government has the majority and our hands are tied. But we can create such an atmosphere in Italy that nobody will have faith in the Italian government because they will know the government does not speak for the Italian people."—United Press.

NOMINATION APPROVED

Washington, Mar. 14.—The Senate Interior Committee today approved ten to one the nomination of Australian-born Dr James Boyd as Bureau of Mines Director over the objections of John L. Lewis and his idle coal miners.

Lewis had protested against Dr Boyd's nomination by ordering his miners on a two-week demonstration walkout, starting at midnight last night.—United Press.



SPECULATION IN RANGOON

Dr Evatt's Hint

Rangoon, Mar. 14.—There is growing speculation here on the statement by Australia's External Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Evatt, that Burma may rejoin the British Commonwealth of Nations, but government officials at present are reticent to express any opinion on the possibilities.

Political sources, some of them enjoying Cabinet confidence, believe the outcome of the New Delhi conference will be an invitation to the Burmese government to shed its mantle of pseudo independence and link up again with Great Britain and the other countries of the Commonwealth.

A full session of the Burmese Parliament would necessarily have to discuss such an invitation and place it before Parliament before taking any decision, but the sources are convinced that if the invitation were so framed that the country's leaders will not lose face, it will be accepted.

As with the Japanese, the Burmese place a tremendous value upon "face."

These sources point out that Burma at present is in no position to bargain for a loan imperative to her subsistence. Today she must accept such terms as may be imposed the grant of a loan by any foreign bloc.

Twelve months of disturbed internal conditions have placed a tremendous strain upon Burma's never-too-strong exchequer. To warrant destruction of expensive property, has been added the wholesale rifling of equipment have had to be purchased for maintaining the fighting forces.

All this led up to a financial crisis which the Burmese government cannot overcome without outside assistance.

NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Burma today must have money not only to help her export her stocks of surplus rice, but also to import goods essential to her people.

Burma needs foreign aid to stave off inflation rising in her midst like a terrifying spectre.

Sources close to the Burmese government are convinced that the people of Burma will revert to the barter system to obtain their everyday wants if the government is unable to raise a foreign loan.

The barter system was employed by the Burmese during three years of the Japanese occupation.

The Japanese rolled off from portable printing presses their paper currency with such speed that money lost its value.

The Burmese began to trade clothing for rice, their staple food. A pair of shoes brought in supplies sufficient for one month. When they ran out of the where-withal for bartering, they starved.

They do not want to relive those days. And they have an eye cocked on China, plagued by disease, destitution and death.

The Burmese want none of it.

FEAR OF COMMUNISM

Information Minister U Tun Pe recently supported the Associated Press report last November that Burma left the British Commonwealth through fear of the Communists.

He said that when the late Prime Minister U Aung San was called upon to decide between continued association with the Commonwealth and complete independence, the Communists were at the zenith of their power.

Tun Pe stated Aung San personally favoured remaining inside the Commonwealth but was afraid the Communists would plunge Burma into chaos rather than continue a hated association with the British.

He said to avert this Aung San voted for independence but agreed to a treaty binding Burma closely to Britain.

Tun Pe agreed this served only to delay Communist action. The Communists saw through the agreement and waited only enough for Burma to proclaim her independence.

Tun Pe asserted that without foreign intervention Burma "would not completely Red."

He said: "Quelling of the present Karen revolt does not mean the end of trouble. The plot will continue, perhaps for the next 20 years."

SILENCE ON PROPOSALS

He added: "Within Burma today tremendous forces are in conflict. Arbitration by neutral powers, as in the case of India and Pakistan, alone may be able to restore internal peace and aid us in our long-delayed recovery programme."

The Burmese government at present has hung a curtain around the proposals received from New Delhi.

At the time of writing, there is not even official admission that proposals have been received.

Meanwhile the country awaits with ill-concealed impatience for an official indication as to its future path.

Government officials without a sign from Prime Minister Thakin Nu are exercising such caution—they are dismissing Dr Evatt's statement as "mere press speculation."

"MALICIOUS" REPORT

Rangoon, Mar. 14.—The British Embassy in Rangoon today described as "maliciously untrue" the reported dismissal of Burma of 27 members of the British Services Mission on charges of "contamination by Karens."

An Embassy statement emphasises that the British Mission, which is an advisory mission to the Burmese Government on military affairs, evacuated Maymyo when the Karens seized the town.

It said that the services' personnel continue to do their duty in Rangoon, but that some of the women and children had left for Penang owing to the accommodation shortage here.

The statement denied that the Burmese Government had asked the Mission to quit Burma.

"There is no question of the Mission leaving the country at present," it said. From Penang it was reported that the first batch of British evacuees from Burma reached there today.

The group, numbering 31, included wives and children of the British Military Mission in Burma. They had been advised to evacuate because of the present fighting between the Karens and Burmese Government troops.

OFFICIAL DETAINED

According to one British woman the party had an uneventful trip from the Burmese capital to the Mala Kuching airstrip near Penang.

The party made the trip in Royal Air Force Dakotas. They are billeted in Penang's famous Runnymede Hotel.

Reports reaching Rangoon today said that the Deputy Commissioner of Bassein, Mr J. J. Hawkins, an Anglo-Indian, has been detained under section 5 of the Public Order and Preservation Act.

Mr Hawkins, a retired civil engineer in the Burma Telecommunications Department, is suspected of collaborating with the Karens, the reports said.—Associated Press.



Employees of Pan-American World Airways use a bulldozer to tow one of the line's large Clippers from the LaGuardia Field, to the protection of a hangar as a heavy snow storm swept the Metropolitan area. It was the year's heaviest snowfall, varying from 5.2 inches in lower Manhattan to 10 inches in outlying sections of the city. Air, highway and harbour traffic was disrupted.—AP Picture.

Plot To Kill Premier

Peshawar, Mar. 14.—The Northwest Frontier police have discovered a plot to assassinate Khan Abdul Gaiyur Khan, the Premier of the Northwest Frontier Province, it was officially announced here today.

The statement said the plot was organised by the "Red Shirts" volunteer corps founded by Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan and pledged to non-violence.

A number of Red Shirt followers had been arrested, was revealed. The purpose of the plot was said to be to checkmate the efforts to bring Kashmir within Pakistan.

The "Red Shirts," who were active before India and Pakistan became independent, supported the Congress Party, which opposed a partition of the sub-continent.

Abdus Gaffar Khan was arrested in June, 1948, and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. The organisation was declared illegal by the Northwest Frontier Province Government in September last year.—Reuters.

Gubitchev Feels Peeved

New York, Mar. 14.—The Russian engineer, Valentin Gubitchev, charged today that the United States had treated him in an unbecoming way and requested more time to reflect whether he wanted a Court-appointed lawyer to represent him in pleading to espionage charges.

The Federal Judge, Mr Simon Rifkind, gave the 32-year-old suspended United Nations employee another day to decide whether he wanted the services of Court-appointed counsel. Gubitchev told the Court today he felt he had been treated as if he had been in "an inquisition of the Middle Ages." He said he understood the laws of his country, but his experiences here since the Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested him and Judith Coplan in New York on March 1 had baffled him.—United Press.

Report Ridiculed

Washington, Mar. 14.—The U.S. State Department on Monday termed "completely ridiculous" a published report that the U.S. is preparing to turn over six or more warships to Argentina.

Press officer Mr Michael J. McDermott told reporters that "nobody in the Navy or the State Department knows anything" about such a proposal.

The report was published by the Washington Times Herald in a copyrighted Times Herald Press.

Committee Approves More Aid For Britain

Washington, Mar. 14.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today recommended the approval of the full authorisation of \$940 million of aid to Britain for 1949-50 under the Marshall Plan.

Presenting its report on a bill to continue the Marshall Plan, the Senate Committee reviewed Britain's needs in the light of a statement made by Mr Christopher Mayhew, British Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, on February 23 to the effect that Britain's recovery was virtually complete.

The Committee's report said this statement had led to "widespread questioning of the need for further American aid."

The report concluded: "In view of the fact that any setback in a country as important as the United Kingdom would have a disastrous effect on the whole European Recovery Programme, the Committee recommends to the Senate the approval of the full authorisation requested, with a reminder that a further thorough review will be afforded when the justifications for the appropriations are examined."

The report gave the Committee's approval to the Aid Bill. This recommends the allocation of \$1,150 million to Marshall Plan countries from April to June, 1949, and \$4,280 million from June, 1949, to June, 1950.

WORTH-WHILE RISK

Summing up the success of the Marshall Plan to date, the report said: "Due to the efforts of the peoples on both sides of the Atlantic, the risk has proved worth taking. The programme is now successfully under way. With the momentum gained during the past 12 months, this second and critical year should bring the participating countries still closer to the achievement of those great ideals of common welfare and peace embodied in the Recovery Programme."

The Committee's report makes these points:

Strategic Materials: It urged the adoption of an amendment designed to set up that part of the Marshall Plan programme which provides for increased production of strategic materials overseas and their transfer to the United States.

The amendment urges the Economic Co-operation Administrator to use his bargaining power with the European countries to increase the production of strategic materials and to assist other agencies of the United States Government in purchasing such materials.

It empowers him to enter into contracts for periods as long as 20 years for the purchase of strategic materials.

ALHAMBRA

NEXT CHANGE



An International Release

Snow Grounds Planes

EXPENSIVE PALACES

London, Mar. 14.—Britain's Royal Palaces are expected to cost the taxpayer £110,000 in 1949-50, an increase of £32,925 over the current year. This was revealed today in the Civil Estimates for Government Services, which total £82,388,202, a net decrease of £7,417,123 compared to 1948-49.

Alterations and modernisation of Clarence House, the future London residence of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, will require £5,000 over the £45,000, which will probably have been spent on the building by March 31, the end of the current financial year.

The original estimate for the whole project was £50,000.

Royal parks and pleasure gardens, which are mostly open to the public, are expected to cost £602,000—an increase of £130,470.

Estimates for the Houses of Parliament total £1,095,000, an increase of £374,000. The chief item in these is £700,000 for the rebuilding of the war-damaged House of Commons.

Among the decreases in the Estimates was a drop of £88,350 in the costs of the Government's Central Office of Information, which is expected to take £3,450,000. At the same time, an increase of £10,000 is shown in the £136,000 estimate for the Government's Press advertising.—Reuters.

Imprisonment For Spies

Munich, March 14.—Three women and five men were convicted of spying on U.S. forces for the Communist-dominated Czechoslovak government and were sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to eighteen years.

Blonde dimpled Gerle Doerre, 29, was sentenced to 12 years by the U.S. military commission. Robert Kruse, 44, German national who allegedly supplied the Czechs with information on ship movements at Bremen and on the unloading of American tanks drew the heaviest penalty of 18 years.—United Press.

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